All the information you'll ever need to create the best military models...

Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL

Issue 78 - October 2012
www.modelmilitary.com

Swann Morton 80th Anniversary

PANTHER CUB

HobbyBoss 1:35
VK1602 Leopard

MENG DYNASTY

Meng's Brand New
1:35 Merkava Mk.3D

DEVASTATOR

1:35 scale T31 Demolition Tank Conversion

INSIDE: 1:35 GMC Bofors ■ 1:48 Matilda ■ 1:35 Mercedes 170VK ■ 1:35 Duster Build Review ■ 1:35 Waffentrager ■ and more...

ADH PUBLISHING
October 2012 / £4.20 / Issue 78
78
9 771749 886033

Bookworld Wholesale Limited

..INCORPORATING AVID READER MAIL ORDER BOOKS

UK DISTRIBUTORS OF TANKOGRAD

Enamel Weathering Techniques DVD (AK000DVD)

New DVD from AK Interactive and Mig Jimenez covering Filters, washes, streaking grime, streaking rust, splashed dry mud, fresh mud, rainmarks and oil and grease. Running time 60 minutes.

£16.99

Weathering Techniques for Invernal Vehicles DVD (AK035DVD)

New DVD from AK Interactive and Mig Jimenez covering hairspray techniques, faded winter camo, chips and scratches, streaking winter grime, winter camo over green and dark yellow bases, rust effects and mud. Running time 60 minutes.

£16.99

AFV Acrylic Techniques DVD by Mig Jimenez (75000DVD)

A DVD covering all techniques for painting military vehicles using only acrylics, topics covered include washes, chipping, fadings, rust, grease and much more. Running Time 56 minutes.

£16.99

Weathering in 1 Hour DVD by Mig Jiminez (AK036DVD)

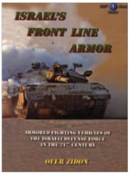
Discover how to paint a Sdkf 222 in almost 1 hour!! with no video cuts and in only one take. Running Time 70 minutes.

£16.99

The Weathering Magazine

New from AK Interactive a magazine dedicated to weathering techniques. Topics include Rusting a Paper Panzer, Raw Steel Plate, Bare Metal Armour, Ship Rusting, Sand Blown Old Rusty Steel, Rusty Beetle, Full Colour, 77 pages. Edited by John Murphy.

£8.99



Israel's Front Line Armor

Armored Fighting Vehicles of the Israeli Defense Force in the 21st Century by Ofer Zidon. Chapters include: On a Brink of a New Century, Defensive Shield, The New Generation Merkava, Gaza Operations, Gaza Disengagement, Second Lebanon War, Lebanon War Aftermath, Cast Lead 2008 back to Gaza. Full Colour, 78 pages.

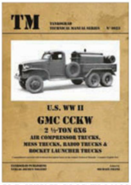
£22.99

EjÈrcito Argentino (7026) Vehicles of the Modern Argentine Army

Currently the Argentine Army has a total of 1,400 combat vehicles (both tracked and wheeled), 5,700 field vehicles and 1,600 garrison vehicles.

This publication is the first complete coverage of the major types of wheeled and tracked vehicles in Argentine Army service today and combines new facts with hitherto unknown photographs. Illustrated throughout with 172 colour photographs.

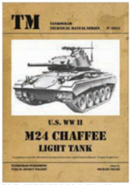
£13.99



U.S. WW II GMC TM6023

48 pages with 150-200 illustrations, among them WW2 action photos, colour photos and technical drawings. Illustrated throughout. Excerpts of technical manuals, wartime photos, photos of restored vehicles. Ideal compagnion for modellers and fans of technology. Complete background history and variants.

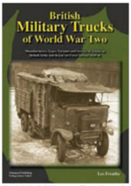
£9.99



U.S. WW II M24 Chaffee Light Tank TM6024

48 pages with 150-200 illustrations, among them WW2 action photos, colour photos and technical drawings. Illustrated throughout. Excerpts of technical manuals, wartime photos, photos of restored vehicles. Ideal compagnion for modellers and fans of technology. Complete background history and variants.

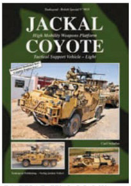
£9.99



British Military Trucks of World War 2

For the very first time, an overview of manufacturers' designs, major truck types and their variants is now at hand. Based on factory and World War Two in-service photographs, this volume provides an in-depth and comprehensive examination of a subject that has hitherto been weakly documented.

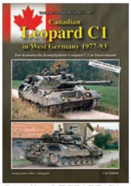
£34.99



JACKAL High Mobility Weapons Platform (9009) COYOTE Tactical Support Vehicle - Light

This publication provides an exclusive and detailed look onto the development, technology and use in a war zone of these two outstanding British vehicle designs. Illustrated with 148 colour photographs and 3 graphics.

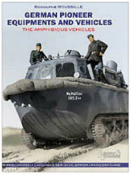
£13.99



Canadian LEOPARD C1 in West Germany 1977-93 (8007)

This publication highlights the use of the C1 and its variants in the Germany of the Cold War with many exercise photographs and additional technical details of this unique Leopard version. Illustrated with 121 colour photographs.

£13.99

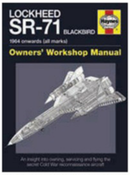


German Pioneer Equipment and Vehicles

The Amphibious Vehicles.

A fascinating look at a much neglected World War Two topic - amphibious vehicles. Illustrated with thirty or so colour profiles and more than 200 black and white period photographs, of which a hundred or so are as yet unpublished.

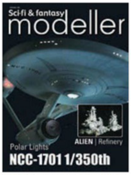
£32.50



Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird Manual 1964 onwards

The co-authors are world authorities on the Blackbird and give rare insights into the secret world of the SR-71, its genesis, construction and anatomy (including its use of stealth technology), and its operation and maintenance in peace and war. Hardback, 160 pages, 136 col & 132 b&w Illustrations.

£21.99



Sci.Fi & Fantasy Modeller Vol.26

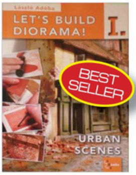
Promises genre modellers an exciting, exclusive menu of reviews and features, including a special section offering major coverage of and previewing the biggest kit event of 2012 - Polar Lights' 1/350th. Enterprise! One hundred all colour, perfect bound pages present builds of the latest mainstream and garage kits plus scratchbuilds, studio-scale replicas, special projects, and more. Superbly illustrated.

£14.95

Warship Pictorial 38

IJN Nagato Class Battleships by Steve Wiper. Very well illustrated with Black and White photos, 72 pages.

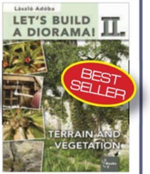
£14.99



LET'S BUILD A DIORAMA! VOL.1

This book presents ways to create spectacular dioramas out of everyday materials. This first volume concentrates on urban scenes.This book is packed with great and inspiring ideas. 63 pages in full colour.

£11.99



LET'S BUILD A DIORAMA! VOL.2

The second volume in this excellent series concentrates on Terrain and Vegetation modelling techniques. Topics include soil, gravel, footprints, tracks, mud, rock, grass, trees and much more! 80 pages in full colour.

£12.99

WHOLESALE TERMS AVAILABLE TO GENUINE OUTLETS.
IF YOU ARE A PUBLISHER LOOKING FOR A WHOLESALER OR DISTRIBUTOR IN THE UK PLEASE CONTACT US:
info@bookworldws.co.uk

Bookworld Wholesale Ltd.
Unit 10 Hodfar Road, Sandy Lane Ind Est,
Stourport, Worcs DY13 9QB

Tel : 01299 823330 Fax : 01299 829970
web: www.bookworldws.co.uk email: info@bookworldws.co.uk

YOU CAN VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.bookworldws.co.uk Stockists of the following subjects: Aviation, Military, Naval, Modelling, Railway, Motoring

Major credit cards accepted, UK cheques payable to Bookworld Wholesale Ltd

UK POSTAGE SINGLE BOOK £1.95 TWO OR MORE BOOKS £4.00
OVERSEAS AIRMAIL PLEASE ADD 15% OF ORDER VALUE MINIMUM £4.50

Contents - Issue 78 October 2012

Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL

30

44

6

REGULARS

p 4 NEWS
What's new in the world of military modelling

p 51 DIARY DATES
Events and shows around the world

p 52 SMALL SCALE
The latest releases in 1:72 and smaller

p 53 FIGURES
News from the world of figure modelling

p 54 INCOMING
MMI's thoughts on the latest kits and accessories

p 58 BOOKS
Rounding up the latest in print

p 60 1:48 SCALE
Luke Pitt explores 1:48 scale military models, figures and accessories

p 66 LAST POST
Late breaking news and ramblings from the Editor

FEATURES

p 6 THINK TANK
Long Range Desert Group After the Desert by Tobias Gibson

p 12 PREVIEW
HobbyBoss 1:35 GMC Bofors 40mm Gun by Brett Green

p 14 ERZATZ M10
Dragon's 1:35 scale Elefant by Ian and Trevor Roberston

p 20 PREVIEW
Masterbox 1:35 Mercedes 170VK by Andy King

p 22 BUILD REVIEW
AFV Club's 1:35 scale Duster by Graham Tetley

p 26 SWANN MORTON
80th Anniversary visit by Joe Brown

p 30 MENG DYNASTY
Meng's 1:35 scale Merkava Mk.3D by Anthony Sheedy

p 38 PANTHER CUB
HobbyBoss 1:35 VK1602 Leopard by Andy King

p 44 SHERMAN DEVASTATOR
1:35 T31 Demolition Tank Conversion by Kamil Feliks Sztarbala

p 56 PREVIEW
Dragon 1:35 Waffentrager by Andy King

p 57 PREVIEW
Tamiya 1:48 Matilda by Luke Pitt

14

Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL
Swann Morton 80th Anniversary
PANTHER CUB
MENG DYNASTY
DEVASTATOR
1:35 scale T31 Demolition Tank Conversion
INSIDE:

©ADH Publishing Ltd 2012

Tel: (UK) 01525 222573
Fax: (UK) 01525 222574
Email: enquiries@modelmilitary.com
Address: ADH Publishing,
Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane,
Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK

Model Military International is published monthly by **ADH Publishing.**

Reproduction in part or whole of any text, photograph or illustration without written permission from the publisher is strictly prohibited. While due care is taken to ensure the contents of **Model Military International** is accurate, the publishers and printers cannot accept liability for errors or omissions.

ISSN 1749-8864

Newsline - October'12

MMI Newsdesk, ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill,
Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK
Tel:01525 222573 Fax:01525 222574
Email:editor@modelmilitary.com

Kit Form Services' 1:24 scale BL 5.5" Howitzer

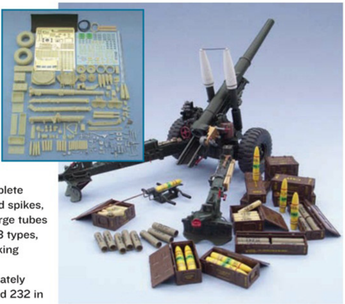
To compliment their recently released 1:24 scale AEC Matador medium artillery gun tractor, Kit Form Service has now released the classic 5.5" towed howitzer also in 1:24 scale. Features include all mechanisms in high detail, working breech, working trails with detachable ground spades. Optional parts are provided for a choice of towed/loading/low angle firing or full elevation. Optional parts are also supplied for wartime and post war use along with optional balancing gear covers & muzzle cover.

The model offers a traversing gun cradle, complete sights, pioneer tools, real timber gun planks, hand spikes, ranging poles, drag rope, shells, loading tray, charge tubes (open & closed), bag charges, 6 ammo boxes of 3 types, plus a comprehensive ammo and ammo box marking decal set.

The parts count for this kit comes to approximately 126 in high quality resin & white metal and around 232 in photo-etched brass. That sound like a lot of etched parts but around 80 of these are just lashing loops for CES stowage (with plenty of spares). A further 80 are buckles for the stowage straps (again with plenty of spares) & 36 are the drag rope hooks for the wheels.

- Release date 25 July 2012
- Kit Number TQ-201
- UK price £120.00 (export outside EU @ £100.00)

For more information visit
www.kitformservices.com



A NEW HOME FOR HALIFAX MODELLERS WORLD

After 22 years of successful trading in Halifax's historic Piece Hall square, Halifax Modellers World, one of the UK's leading independent hobby stores has moved to new premises in the town centre at 29 Union Street. Piece Hall is being re-developed and the move has taken place to avoid disruption caused by building works.

In a world gradually being overtaken by Internet trading and direct sales, Halifax Modellers World remains a mecca for UK modelling enthusiasts, largely owing to the foresight and enthusiasm of owner Dave Smith.

"I took over the store in 1994 when it was struggling and over time we have built up Halifax Modellers World to what it is now", says Dave. "The move is necessary for us to maintain that progress. We've been helped a lot by some regular customers plus my co-worker Darren who has been with the store since the very early days".

Halifax Modellers World is an outlet that combines the best of traditional trading with the modern way of trading. Both Dave and Darren are avid modellers, both able to provide skill, knowledge and expertise over the counter. Their fixtures are a treasure trove of kit brands old and new. At the same time they have embraced and made a success of mail order and Internet sales. They are also regulars on the show circuit and regularly venture to events south of Yorkshire.

"This new move cements our success and proves that we can weather any economic storm. As a result we can look forward with confidence to helping modellers practice their hobby and insulate their lofts at the same time for many years to come", says a proud Dave Smith.

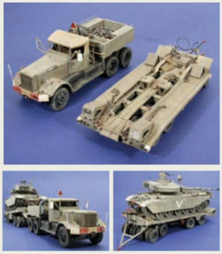
So why not pay them a visit? Halifax Modellers World can be found at 29 Union Street Halifax HX1 1PR, telephone 01422 349157, email *halifaxmodellersworld@fsmail.net*

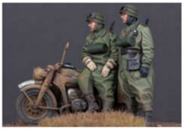
ACCURATE ARMOUR 1:35 IDF DIAMOND T

Accurate Armour's latest batch of releases includes two impressive 1:35 scale Israeli Defence Force Diamond-T Tank Transporter boxed sets.

These are item nos. K184 M19 M980/981 with Rogers 40-Ton trailer, (available in Hard or Soft cab versions); and K185 M980/981 Tractor with Dyson 50-Ton drawbar trailer, (again available in Hard or Soft cab versions).

All the details are on Accurate Armour's website, and they are available now.
www.accurate-armour.com





ALPINE MINIATURES

Alpine Miniatures has three new releases that are available now:

- **35142 German Motorcycle Driver (1/35) - MSRP $18.00 USD**
- **35143 German Motorcycle Trooper (1/35) - MSRP $18.00 USD**
- **35144 German Motorcycle Set 2 figures (1/35) - MSRP $34.00 USD**

For more info and images, check out Alpine's website.
www.alpineminiatures.com

TANK MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT PLANS BOOSTED BY £2.5M LOTTERY RESULT

The Tank Museum has learned that its £2.5m second round application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for its Access All Areas project has been successful.

The multi-faceted project which will cost £5m to complete, includes a new 40,000 sq ft Vehicle Conservation Centre (VCC) and two major exhibitions which will all be delivered in stages between 2013 and 2015.

The VCC will be publicly accessible and capable of holding 120 vehicles. For the first time ever, The Tank Museum will have the space to ensure that every vehicle in its collection can be stored undercover in conditions suitable for their long-term conservation.

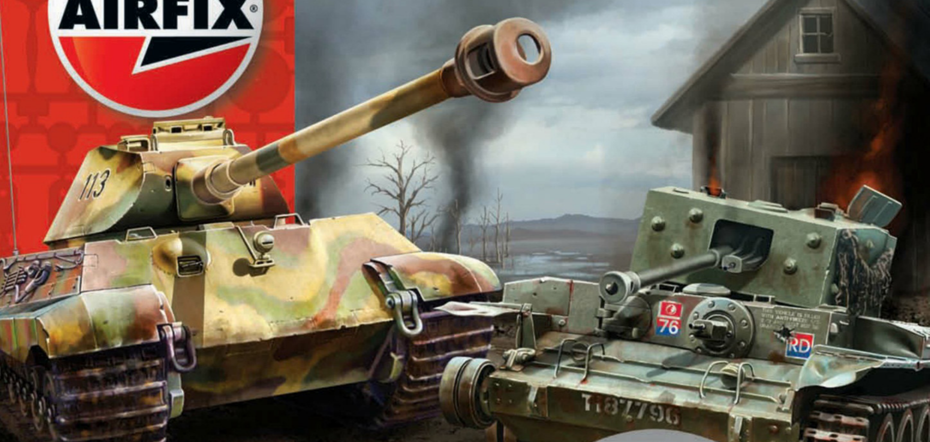
Work on the VCC is expected to commence in September and should be complete before July 2013 at which point the second phase of the Access All Areas project will begin.

The Tank Museum must now raise a further £2.5m to match fund the HLF contribution to the project.

VEHICLE INFORMATION
THE TANK MUSEUM
VEHICLE CONSERVATION

AIRFIX

Classic Conflict



A50142 1:76 Scale
CLASSIC CONFLICT GIFT SET
KING TIGER/CROMWELL MkIVt

New to the battlefields of 1944 both these types brought major advantages to both sides. The agility of the Cromwell vs the sheer power of the King Tiger. Eventually numbers, reliability, raw materials, skill and courage won the day for the Allies.

A75011 1:76 Scale
NARROW ROAD BRIDGE
FULL SPAN

This bridge is based on a style found across Europe with many fought over ferociously during WWII. The bridge can carry models over or under and would make a spectacular centrepiece to any model. This brilliant bridge is also perfect for any railway layout in either HO or OO scale.

A75012 1:76 Scale
NARROW ROAD BRIDGE BROKEN SPAN

Attacking and bombing bridges across Europe was a strategic necessity throughout WWII and this model represents a typical ruined example that makes for excellent possibilities for modelling superb dioramas as well as wargaming features.

A75012 1:76 Narrow Road Bridge Broken Span

A75011 1:76 Narrow Road Bridge Full Span

Scan this QR code with your smartphone to find out more.

A50142 1:76 King Tiger/Cromwell MkIV

AIRFIX
CLASSIC CONFLICT
1:76 KING TIGER CROMWELL MkIV
HORNBY

www.airfix.com and all good retail stockists

Join the AIRFIX Club
AIRFIX CLUB

www.youtube.com/officialairfix

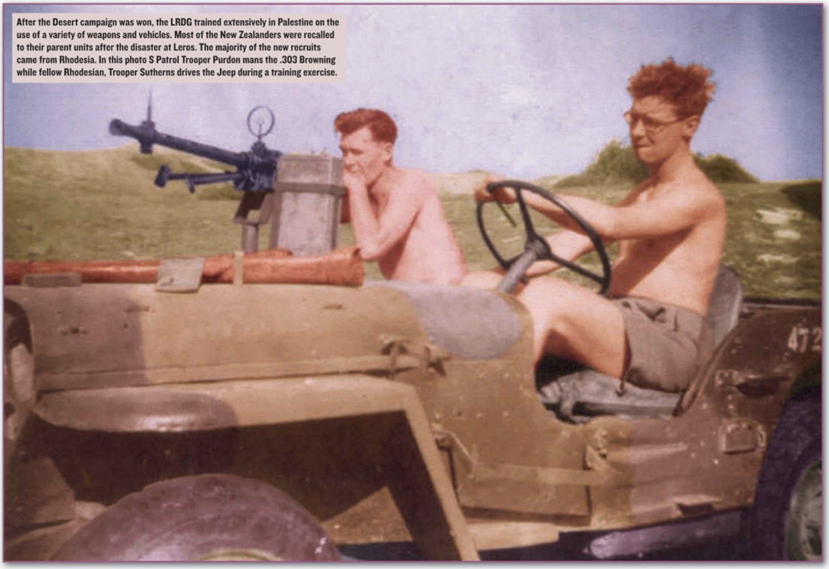
www.twitter.com/airfix

www.facebook.com/officialairfix

Humbrol
www.humbrol.com

PROJECT AIRFIX
FOR SCHOOLS AND ALL YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

HORNBY visitor centre



After the Desert campaign was won, the LRDG trained extensively in Palestine on the use of a variety of weapons and vehicles. Most of the New Zealanders were recalled to their parent units after the disaster at Leros. The majority of the new recruits came from Rhodesia. In this photo S Patrol Trooper Purdon mans the .303 Browning while fellow Rhodesian, Trooper Sutherns drives the Jeep during a training exercise.

AFTER THE DESERT:

LRDG GUN JEEPS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Tobias Gibson covers the service of the Long Range Desert Group's later service and their adaptation of the Jeep for their new role.

The Long Range Desert Group (LRDG) is best known for its daring behind the lines, operations in the North African Desert. Indeed, the unit was born of the desert and became an indispensable tool of Commonwealth forces there. However, as the desert war came to its successful conclusion, many high ranking officials in the British Army saw no need for the unit. As an all-volunteer unit, the Group's members dreaded the thought of RTU (Return to Unit) to line units but with no desert war to fight, how could an army use a "desert" group? The LRDG became a unit in search of a mission. Fortunately, the top officers of the LRDG were men of vision and had some sympathetic friends in high places.

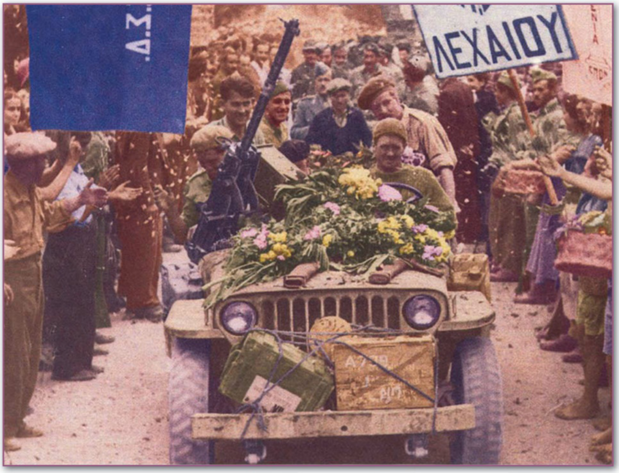
While Ralph Bagnold had created the LRDG, Guy Prendergast had been the Group's longest serving desert commander. David Lloyd Owen described him as a man who would not "suffer military fools" and "was intolerant of those who could not see things as swiftly as he." Prendergast knew commando operations were already taking place in Norway and the Aegean. His vision was to transform his desert raiders into bands of soldiers capable of operating independently in such environs.

As the desert campaign came to an end, Prendergast was made Deputy Commander of Raiding Forces. This left the LRDG in the capable hands of a former wine merchant turned expert patrol commander -- Lt. Col. John Edward "Jake" Easonsmith, DSO. Unfortunately, soon after the desert campaign ended, Easonsmith was killed in action. This happened during one of its first missions after the desert war.

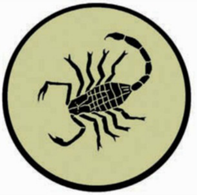
DEBACLE ON LEROS

The LRDG was assigned to assist in the defence of the small island of Leros; a mission that was beyond their scope and capabilities. During the operation, Easonsmith, their newly appointed and much loved commander was killed by sniper fire while on patrol. To compound this disaster many of the old desert hands were either killed or captured. Among the captured was Doc Lawson, the Medical Officer.

David Lloyd Owen, currently the 2IC, only managed to survive the travesty of Leros due to the foresight of Easonsmith who ordered him off the island a day or two before the fiasco unfolded. The misuse of the LRDG on Leros was a final straw for the commander of New Zealand Forces and most of the remaining Kiwis were ordered back to their parent units. It was now up to Lloyd Owen to not only rebuild the LRDG but also convince Middle East Command on the proper use of the unit. Fortunately for Lloyd Owen, his former boss, Guy Prendergast and a few other desert hands were in positions to help him convince higher

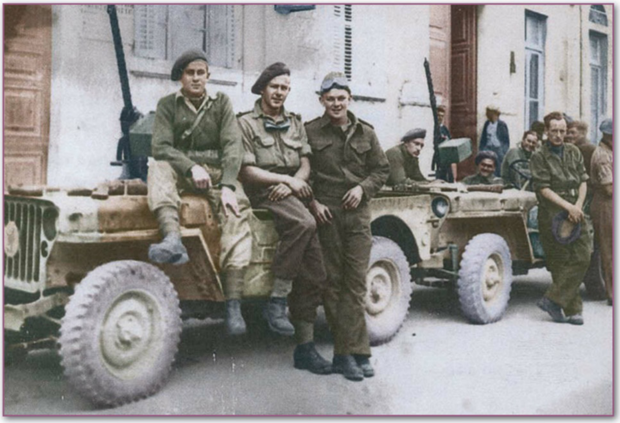


An LRDG jeep patrol is greeted by well-wishers in the Greek village of Lechaio (Λέχαιο). The Jeep has the scorpion crest of the S-Patrol affixed to the front grill. Note also the carbine cases on the bonnet of the jeep and the M2 machine gun. In all, six patrolmen are riding in the jeep.



During the Desert Campaign the Rhodesian S Patrol adopted a black scorpion in a circle as their emblem. After leaving the desert the same emblem was often affixed to the front of their Jeeps. The roundel was about the same size a bridge classification sign and was attached to the centre of the grill.

Members of a Jeep patrol somewhere in Greece take time to pose in between actions. The jeep is armed with the venerable AN-M2 air-pattern .5 inch Browning. Note the variety of uniforms worn by the patrol members. While a beige beret was the official headgear of all Special Forces in the Mediterranean, most members of the LRDG continued to wear the black RTR beret adopted during the Desert campaign.



headquarters of the correct use of the raiders.

RETRAINING AND REINVENTION

The LRDG deployed to Palestine where it underwent parachute, mountain warfare, and small-arms training. They also became experts in close quarters combat, house to house fighting and just about every other kind of specialized training that could be done. The Group received training from various branches of the Army and Navy as well as the SOE and American OSS.

The loss of the Kiwis and the new mission statement led to a major reorganisation of the Group. The new patrols would need to be smaller and lighter. Now, each patrol would consist of one officer and seven to ten other ranks. Each patrol was assigned a medical orderly and radioman. All men were experts in land navigation, vehicle repairs, and the use of all small arms; including those of enemy.

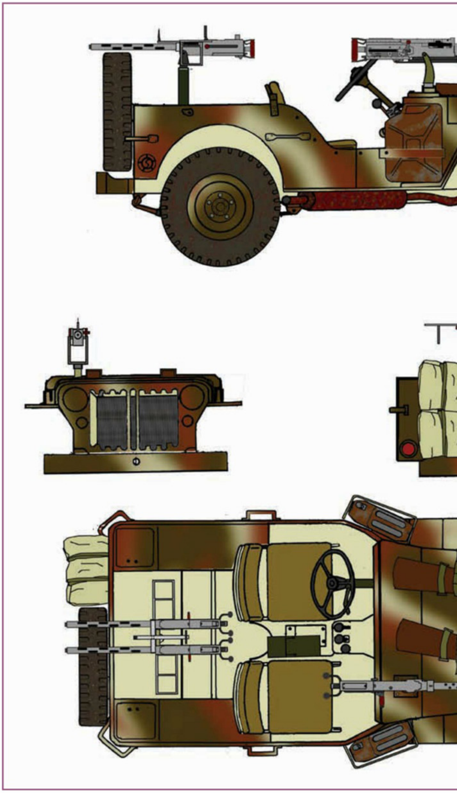
When the training was over, the LRDG had a new mission; a mission more in keeping with their past actions and expertise. They became the "eyes" for Allied forces throughout the eastern Mediterranean. The Group provided detailed reconnaissance in Italy, Greece, Albania, Yugoslavia and the islands of the Adriatic and Aegean Sea; reporting any enemy movement by land, sea and air. Additionally, they coordinated partisan activities, provided assistance to Commandos and committed acts of sabotage. Additionally, at their own discretion; they were also allowed to go on beat-ups, wherever and whenever possible.

For patrol operations, 30 CWT trucks were a thing of the past. The few that remained were used by Headquarters. Patrols normally relied on parachutes and Ammo Boots for transportation but when possible the ubiquitous gun-jeep was used for operations. This was especially true in Greece. All LRDG personnel also became expert cyclists and equestrians. Furthermore, because it was not always feasible to use vehicles for re-supply all patrol members learned how to handle pack mules.

The Group continued to wear Khaki Drill when the weather permitted but more often wore Battledress. Wool sweaters were also quite common among patrol members. The Group made a concerted effort to standardise its headgear. The Black RTR berets were to be replaced by the new sand colour beret used by the SAS Originals. The beret had become standard for all raider forces in the ▶

S Patrol Trps. Tiny Simpson and Dupe du Perez pose with one of the local children somewhere in the Aegean. An LRDG unit badge is on Simpson's beret suggesting this picture was taken in the rear area. Du Perez has a Browning HP35 pistol in his holster. The pistol was not adopted by the LRDG until after the Desert Campaign had ended.

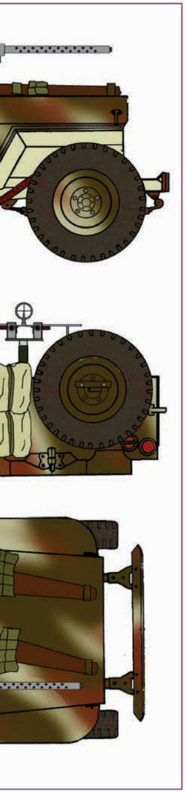
After the Desert Campaign ended John Richard "Jake" Easonsmith, DSO, MC., long time R1 patrol commander was elevated to commander of the LRDG. His untimely death due to sniper fire during the ill-fated Leros raid was a blow to the unit.

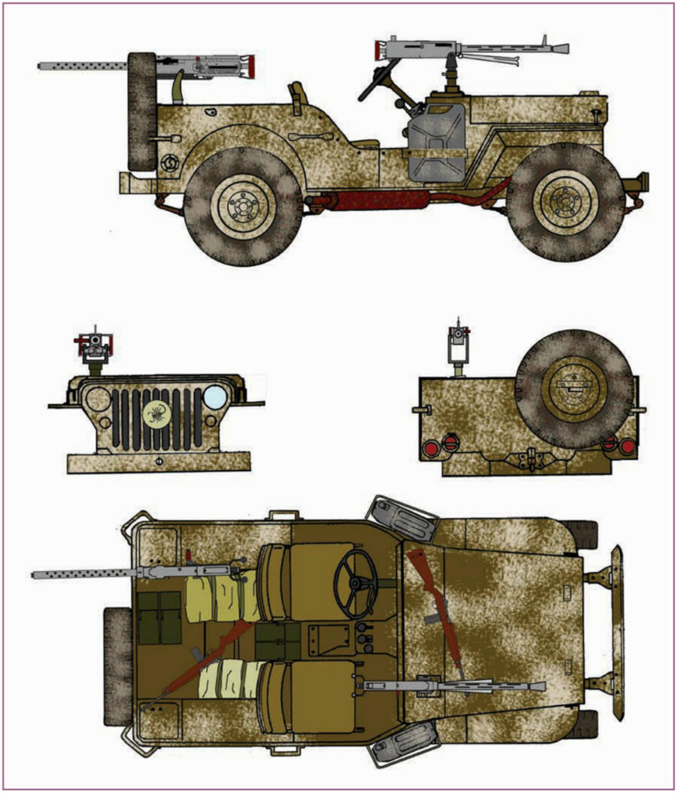


Early Jeeps used in the Adriatic were veterans of the Desert Campaign given a fresh coat of camouflage. This Jeeps was originally painted Canadian sand during its desert days. It has now been over-sprayed with terra-cotta and dark green. The inside of the jeep has not been camouflaged because stored equipment will hide sand base coat. The captured Jerry cans have been hastily painted with terra cotta. The jeep is heavily armed with an AN-M2 .50 machinegun in front and pair of .303 Mk II machineguns in rear mounted pintle. It was rare for the LRDG to deploy such a heavily armed Jeep after the Desert Campaign. Cases for two M1 Carbines are mounted on the bonnet of the jeep.

◀ Mediterranean (Oddly, the SAS was placed under Airborne Command and forced to adopt the red beret!). This standardisation among the LRDG was less than successful. Many of the old desert hands held on to the RTR black beret while others continued to wear the head dress of their parent unit. Balaclavas and wool knit caps also remained the standard headgear during operations. Chapplies (sandals) were still worn at times but the Ammo Boot was more common.

As for small arms, the American made M1 Carbine, commonly called a Winchester, and its M4 bayonet became a patrol standard and was very popular. Tommy Guns and the trusted SMLE however remained in the patrol arsenal. Sten guns were not favored by the patrols but because patrols





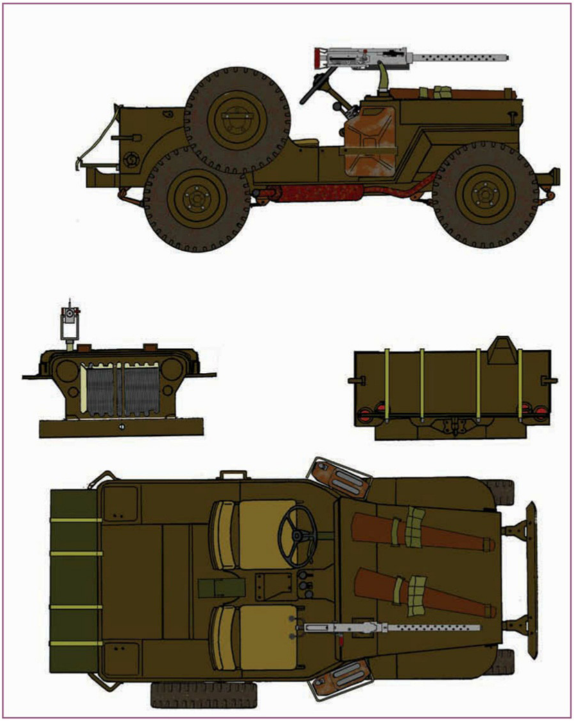
New replacement Jeeps were often not repainted and entered service with the **LRDG** in the original **U.S. Olive Drab**. The camouflage is accomplished with heavy layers of the local mud and dust. This particular Jeep belongs to **S-Patrol** as denoted by the scorpion roundel affixed to the grill. The jeep mounts a **.303 Mk II** machinegun in front. The gun has a bipod attached which allows for it to easily be dismounted and used elsewhere. An **AN-M2 .50** machine gun is mounted on a low pintle on the back of the vehicle. The **LRDG** considered a ground ambush more likely than an air attack and the low mounts allowed troopers to use the body of the vehicles for a certain amount of protection. Personal weapons include two **MI Carbines**; a weapon favoured by the **LRDG**.

worked with partisans, they would have been present at times. Due to partisan operations, enemy weapons were also commonplace. Whereas the Bren gun was not used in the desert, it now became the light machinegun of the patrols. Brens were normally used in a dismounted role. The most common Jeep machineguns were the .303 MK II and ANM2 .5 inch Brownings. The .303s often had bipods attached for easy dismounted use. (The M2HB may have also been used in small quantities). There are also several mentions of patrols using the Projector, Infantry, Anti-Tank (PIAT).

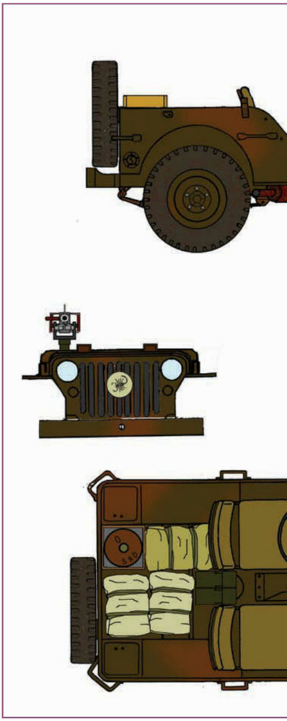
NEW JEEPS

Compared to the SAS, the LRDG had employed few Jeeps in the desert. This meant they needed several new Jeeps to perform their missions. The older desert Jeeps had their condensers and sun compasses removed but still had the cut away grill. The new Jeeps arrived with the front grill intact. After being modified for operations in the Adriatic; the older desert Jeeps and new Jeeps served side by side with the only visible difference being the front grill.

The LRDG gun-jeeps were only slightly more standardised than those used in the desert years. Because the LRDG was a reconnaissance unit, the guns were primarily used for defence. The use of a front mounted pintle in front of the passenger seat was typical. Unlike the desert days, the gun mounts reflected concern more for ground ambushes than the aerial attack; as the allies operated with almost complete air superiority. ▶

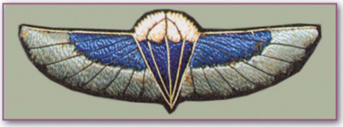


Another veteran of the Desert Campaign, this Jeep is painted overall Khaki-Drab. The spare tyre is mounted on the passenger side and jerry cans are stored behind the front fenders. The vehicle is armed with a single .50 An-M2 machinegun. The crew has made a storage shelf for the rear of the vehicle. With the exception of the shelf, this is probably the most common layout for Jeeps formerly used in the desert.



A newly arrived Jeep issued to the Rhodesians of S-Patrol. The US Olive Drab has been oversprayed with terra cotta. The spare tyre remains on its original mounting however Jerry cans are mounted behind the front fenders. The Rum ration

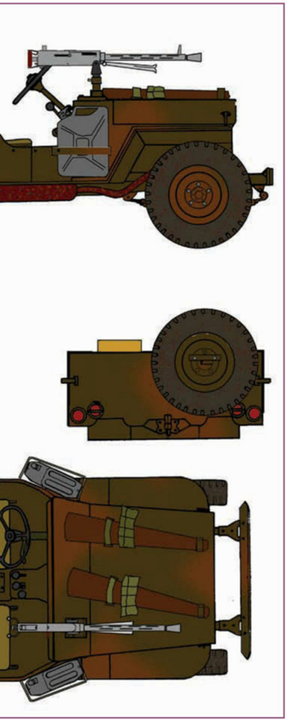
Capt. John R. Olivey, a Rhodesian and veteran of the Desert Campaign, including the raid on Barce. After leaving the Desert, Olivey continued with the LRDG eventually commanding the Rhodesian SI Squadron.



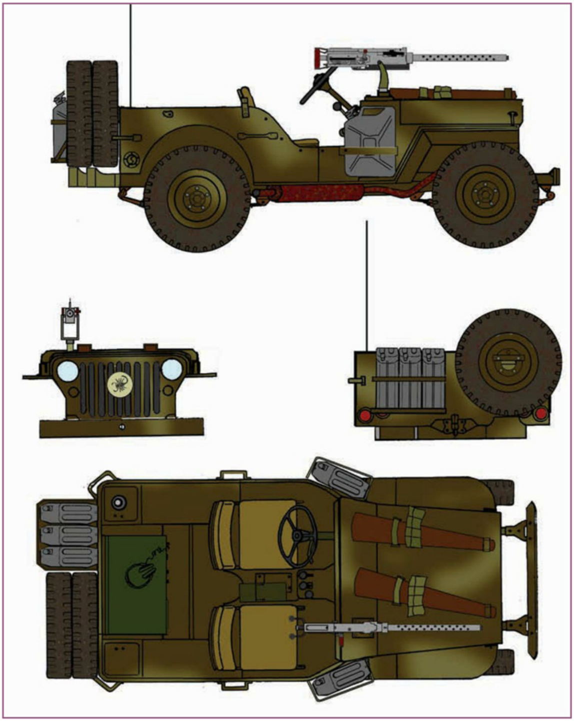
As the campaign in the desert came to an end, The LRDG were retrained for other types of behind the lines operations. Original plans were for the unit to parachute into Norway. While this plan never came to fruition, the unit did perform numerous clandestine parachute drops throughout the Adriatic including Greece, Italy, and Yugoslavia. The unit designed their own parachute wings and many were locally made in Palestine. At least two different designs are known to exist.

◀ For this reason, rear gun mounts were normally quite low, allowing the gunner to crouch in the Jeep for protection.

Brackets for fuel cans were installed above the steps on both sides of the jeep. The spare tire often remained on the back of the Jeep, however, the mounting point was lowered so the tire rested on the rear bumper. Gas cans were rarely mounted on the back. On a few occasions, racks made of angle iron were mounted on the front fenders as well as above the rear wheels. With the exception of well placed carrying cases for American carbines few items were placed on



and personal belongings are stored behind the seats. A single .303 Mk II machine gun is the primary armament. Two MI Carbines are stored on the bonnet. This is probably the most common layout for newly arriving Jeeps.



This S-Patrol Jeep has been painted khaki-drab with an over spray of light bronze green. It is armed with the most commonly used gun of the post Desert Campaign LRDG, the AN-M2 .50 machinegun. While other units were receiving the M2-HB it seemed that either by preference or circumstance the LRDG was left with this air-pattern gun. The crew has taken a lesson from Popski's Private Army, and cut off the left rear bumper and welded it to the right rear bumper to allow two spare tyres to be carried. This also requires lowering the spare tyre mount so that the tyres actually rest on the bumpers. The crew has also fashioned a storage bin from angle iron to allow for more storage, in this case three Jerry cans. Mounted on the floor of the vehicle is a Wireless Set No. 11. Radios were normally mounted on the floor to make them less conspicuous and to offer protection from gunfire. On occasion a platform would be mounted above the radio to allow for seating or additional storage.

the Jeep's bonnet.

The Rhodesian (S) patrols had adopted a scorpion in a circle as their unit insignia during their desert days. This same insignia was still used on occasion in the Adriatic. The black scorpion was painted on small metal plates, similar in size to a bridge classification roundel. The plate was then affixed to the centre of the Jeep's grill.

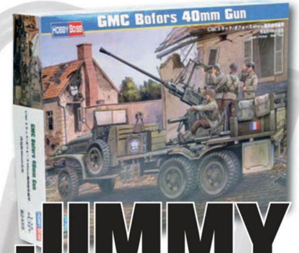
LRDG JEEP COLOURS

The veteran desert gun-jeeps were normally repainted overall khaki-drab. Replacement Jeeps arriving from the U.S. were olive drab and normally not repainted. On some occasion, a disruptive pattern of terra cotta was applied but more often the gun-jeeps remained one colour. The more common practice was to apply local vegetation to the vehicles to aid in concealment. In most cases, German jerry cans were carried instead of the American made counterpart. These were favoured by the LRDG and were also more readily available in the Mediterranean due to captured stockpiles after the collapse of the Afrika Korps. It appears that the captured jerry cans were normally not repainted and were German grey or dark yellow in color.

Jeeps were also widely used for liaison work between patrols and for re-supplying patrols. In some instances, Jeeps would pull the T-3 Jeep trailer. In addition, some HQ Jeeps had windscreens. Surprisingly, sometimes the front pintles were still in place which prevented the windscreen from folding down.

CONCLUSION

The LRDG continued to serve in the Adriatic until disbandment in August 1945. Today, many historians consider the LRDG the first modern Special Forces unit. Some speculate the word "desert" in the Group's name added to its demise. Today, the Group is kept alive in spirit by the numerous LRDG associations. After the war, the niche filled by the LRDG was subsumed by the British Special Air Service. Recently however, the British Army has seen a need for a unit that can go into the backyard of its enemies and specialise in "close" reconnaissance. This unit is the Special Reconnaissance Regiment. The idea of such a specialized recce unit harkens back to Ralph Bagnold's famous quote, "How about some piracy on the high desert?" It would seem history does indeed repeat itself. ■



JIMMY BOFORS

The Editor examines HobbyBoss' 1:35 scale combination of the GMC long wheelbase CCKW truck with the Bofors anti-aircraft gun.

The GMC CCKW truck entered service in 1941, becoming one of the workhorses of the US Army in World War Two and the Korean War. The production numbers are staggering. More than half a million of these trucks, which included variants such as the amphibious DUKW, where manufactured between 1941 and 1945.

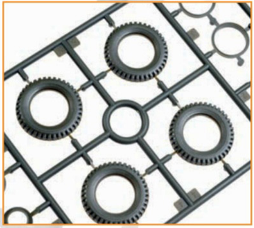
In addition to its best known role as a cargo truck, the GMC CCKW – also known as "Jimmy" and "Deuce and a Half" – was employed as a water tanker, a fuel tanker, a dump truck, a fire engine and much more.

A number of GMC trucks were also converted to self-propelled guns. The long-wheelbase CCKW 353 could be fitted with a 40mm Bofors anti-aircraft gun on a flat bed. It seems that this particular variant was mainly used by Free French troops in 1944 and 1945.

HobbyBoss is now offering this interesting combination as a 1:35 scale full plastic model kit.

The GMC truck is built up from separate chassis rails and structural features underneath the body. An engine is also included, which may be displayed behind open panels. The suspension and the balance of the undersides are quite detailed and will require some attention to secure all the parts in the right places. The ten road wheels and tyres are all presented in injection-moulded plastic – no vinyl tyres here. Hooray! The wheels are fixed to the axles with polythene caps, so they will rotate after assembly if you want them to (or even if you don't).

Separate transmission levers, gear stick, pedals and dashboard are all supplied for the interior. The seats are a bit lifeless though, and would benefit from some additional texturing.


The tyres are presented in injection moulded plastic.

The flat bed is made up from rails and a platform representing timber flooring. Nice woodgrain texture is moulded onto the timber parts.

The Bofors gun itself is quite nicely detailed but not overly complex in parts breakdown. A clip of 40mm shells is available for the top of the breech, and when complete the gun may elevate and rotate. Elements of the gun sight are supplied both in injection-moulded plastic and in photo-etch, depending on your preference. A travel lock is also included.

Stowage is supplied in the form of a winch drum, some jerry cans, a stowed gun cleaning rod (with moulded plastic cover) and ammunition boxes.

The clear sprue has parts for the windscreen, headlights and smaller lights.

A crew is not included.

Markings are provided for a single Free French unit, but details of its deployment are not offered.

The instructions are clearly presented as exploded view diagrams over ten construction steps. A full-colour marking guide is also provided for the sole overall Olive Drab scheme.

HobbyBoss has delivered a nicely detailed kit of this unique vehicle. Although the basis for a super-detailing project is all there, HobbyBoss has not gone crazy with minute parts and details that will never be seen on the finished model. This model seems to represent a nice compromise between buildability and authenticity. ■

HobbyBoss kits are available from Creative Models
www.creativemodels.co.uk

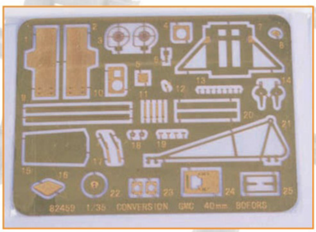
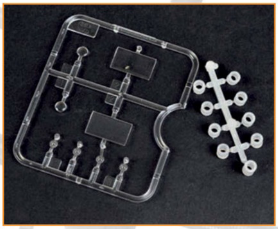
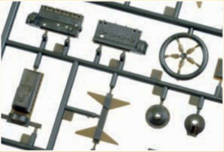
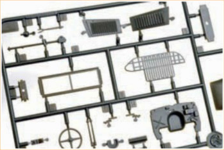


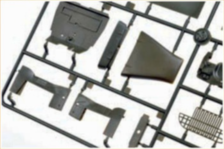
Photo-etched parts are included.

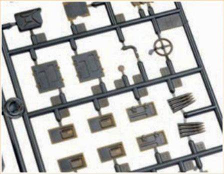

Clear parts and the polythene caps for the wheels.

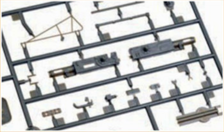

A full engine is included.

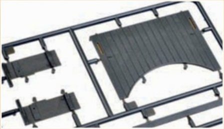
The chassis is made up from separate rails and other structural parts.


Separate hatches may be posed open to display the engine.


The top bonnet is a separate part that may be posed open too.


Ammunition boxes and spare ammo is included.

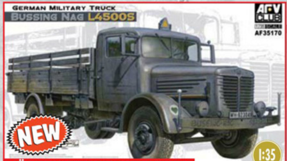

Bofors gun parts.


The flatbed has nice woodgrain detail moulded in place.

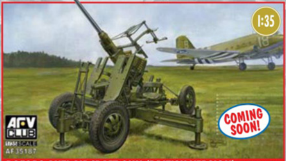
MODEL KITS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

POCKETBOND DISTRIBUTION

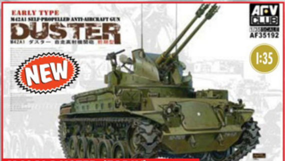
AVAILABLE IN ALL GOOD MODEL SHOPS


GERMAN MILITARY TRUCK
BUSSING NAG L4500S
AFV CLUB
AF35170
NEW
1:35

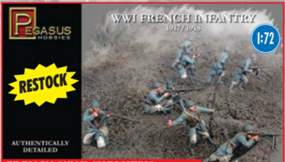
BÜSSING NAG L4500S AF35170


1:35
AFV CLUB
AF35187
COMING SOON!

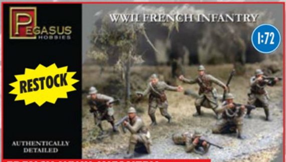
BOFORS ANTI AIRCRAFT GUN (BRITISH VERSION) AF35187


EARLY TYPE
M42A1 SELF-PROPELLED ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN
DUSTER
AFV CLUB
AF35192
NEW
1:35

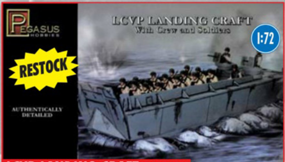
M42AI DUSTER (EARLY) AF35192


PEGASUS HOBBIES
WWI FRENCH INFANTRY
1917/1918
1:72
RESTOCK
AUTHENTICALLY DETAILED

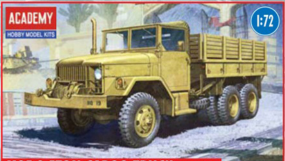
FRENCH WWI INFANTRY PG7199


PEGASUS HOBBIES
WWII FRENCH INFANTRY
1:72
RESTOCK
AUTHENTICALLY DETAILED

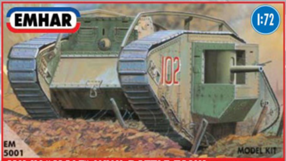
FRENCH WWII INFANTRY PG7306


PEGASUS HOBBIES
LCVP LANDING CRAFT
With Crew and Soldiers
1:72
RESTOCK
AUTHENTICALLY DETAILED

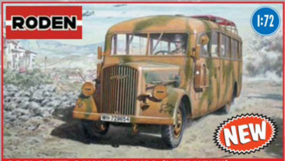
LCVP LANDING CRAFT PG7650


ACADEMY
HOBBY MODEL KITS
1:72

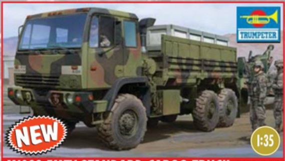
M35 2.5TON CARGO TRUCK AY13410


EMHAR
1:72
EM 5001
MODEL KIT

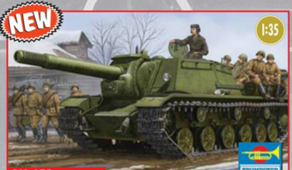
MK IV "MALE" WWI BATTLE TANK EM5001


RODEN
1:72
NEW

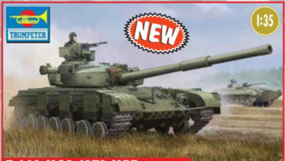
OPEL BLITZ OMNIBUS W39 (LATE WWII) URO-726


TRUMPETER
NEW
1:35

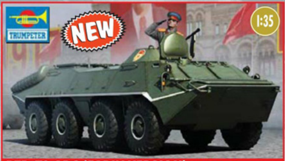
MI083 FMTV STANDARD CARGO TRUCK TM01007


NEW
1:35
TRUMPETER

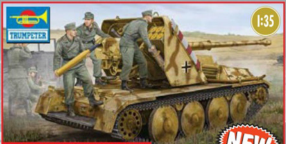
SU-152 TM01571


TRUMPETER
NEW
1:35

T-64A MOD 1972 MBT TM01578


TRUMPETER
NEW
1:35

BTR-70 APC (EARLY VERSION) TM01590


TRUMPETER
1:35
NEW

WAFFENTRAGER PAK43 8.8CM SELF PROPELLED GUN TM05550

TRUMPETER
1:72
NEW

WARRIOR MCV80 TM07101

EASY MODEL: MUSEUM QUALITY ASSEMBLED MODELS: COLLECT THEM ALL!

JAGDPANZER IV 1945 EA36123

STUG III OPERATION BARBAROSSA 1941 EA36135

POCKETBOND LIMITED
2012/13 CATALOGUE

The Pocketbond 2012/13 144 page colour catalogue is packed with pictures of more than 2,500 plastic kits from around the world! For your free copy send a £1.40 stamped addressed A4 envelope to the address below.

UK residents only. Allow 28 days for delivery.

Exclusive UK Distributors* POCKETBOND LTD *(Dept MMI/78)

Prices shown are subject to change due to fluctuation in exchange rates.

P.O.BOX 80, WELWYN, HERTS, AL6 0ND. Trade enquiries only on tel 01707 391509, fax 01707 327466, info@pocketbond.co.uk

PANTHER INCOGNITO

Father and son **Ian and Trevor Robertson** team up to build Dragon's 1:35 Ersatz M10

Many modellers recall with fondness how they got their start in the hobby as kids. For me, it was Monogram kits and frequent visits to air museums and airshows with my Dad. Although my Dad didn't build plastic models, he enthusiastically supported my interest, saw to it that I had a steady supply of kits, and was always willing to lend a hand when I messed up.

As with many modellers, my interest in models waned during my teenage years and then returned in spades in adulthood. But this time it was different. What began perhaps as a way to rekindle youthful memories of model building soon morphed into a more serious pursuit of the hobby – kit collecting, aftermarket purchases, airbrushes, model contests, reference books, magazines, etc. Fifteen years later that side of the hobby continues. However, it has been joined by another opportunity to reconnect with memories of model building as a youth, this time through the interests of my 12-year-old son, Trevor.

Trevor has developed a keen interest in armour models over the past few years, honing his skills on a variety of Tamiya and Dragon kits. His knowledge of armour in many cases surpasses my own. Last Christmas he gave me a Dragon 1:35 scale Ersatz M10 along with a written description of this unusual Panther and its place in history. Given our shared interest in modelling, we decided to team up and build this model together for Model Military International. The only rule for our first collaborative project was that both of us had to be involved in all aspects of the modelling process, from preparation of parts to major construction to finishing touches. This constraint sometimes caused delays – video games (Trevor) and work/other hobbies (Ian) frequently got in the way - but it ensured a shared experience and equal satisfaction in the finished product, and most importantly, it gave us memories that will last a lifetime.

THE ERSATZ M10 - DECEPTION IN THE ARDENNES

Late in 1944, during the Ardennes offensive, the Germans devised Operation 'Greif', a false-flag effort to seize several vital bridges over the river Meuse ahead of US forces. Plans for this operation required a newly formed unit, Panzer Brigade 150 commanded by Otto Skorzeny, to assemble English speaking German soldiers, as well as a large number of captured US Army vehicles, weapons and uniforms. However, the equipment delivered to the unit fell far short of requirements, and few of the soldiers were sufficiently fluent in English and American idiom. With only a single captured Sherman

tank at the unit's disposal, some of the shortfall in armour was made up by disguising the brigade's five Panther tanks as American M10 Wolverine tank destroyers (Ersatz M10 means "substitute M10"). However, the Ersatz M10s were never used as intended. Once it became clear that the initial goals of Operation Greif were unattainable, Panzer Brigade 150 was deployed in a conventional army assault on the town of Malmedy on December 21st, 1944. American forces successfully repelled a series of assaults by the brigade, and all of the Ersatz M10s were either disabled or destroyed in the process.

The Germans went to considerable lengths to disguise their Panthers as M10s for Operation Greif. Sheet metal plates were mounted around the turret to simulate the M10's open turret design, and the commander's raised cupola was replaced with a split hatch. The front of the hull was modified with a false bow and glacis, as well as reshaped drive sprocket housings, all of which were designed to mimic the contours of the M10. A false rear fabricated from sheet metal extended the vehicle's profile, and a dummy rear travel lock was fitted to the rear engine deck. The Panther's schurzen were replaced with shallow plates and spare track mounts to approximate the sides of the M10. A fake mantlet with an opening for the Panther's coaxial MG 34 was fitted to the main gun. The deception was finalized by painting the vehicle in uniform olive drab (or similar) and adding US style markings. Oddly, the muzzle brake on the Ersatz M10's 75mm gun was left in place, even though the M10's 3-inch gun lacked a muzzle brake.

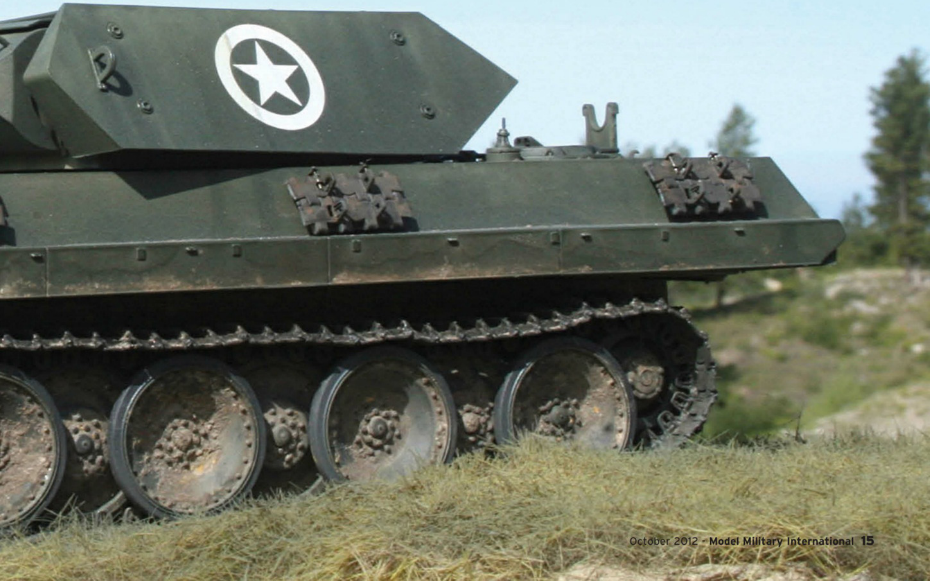
THE DRAGON KIT

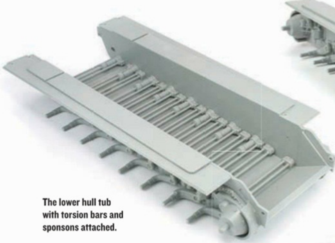
Dragon's 1:35 scale Ersatz M10 includes a complete Panther Ausf. G "Smart Kit" moulded in light grey styrene, as well as additional styrene parts and an expanded fret of etched brass to convert the kit into the false M10 configuration. Although the parts count in the kit is quite high – 533 pieces of grey styrene, 14 in clear styrene, and 47 pieces of etched brass – many of the styrene parts are exclusive to the Panther G and thus end up as surplus. Decals for two of the five Ersatz M10s are provided in the kit. We replaced the kit's individual 'Magic Track' links with Friulmodel's Panther (late type) individual link metal track.

Construction begins with preparation of the road wheels, drive sprockets and idlers. Mould seams and sprue attachment scars were removed with light sanding.

CONSTRUCTION

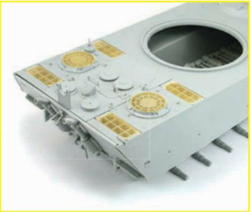
Dragon provides clear, straightforward instructions that cover construction of the model in 15 well-illustrated steps over four pages, plus a fifth page for painting instructions. A conventional order of assembly is prescribed, starting with the wheels and suspension. Thus, we began by preparing and assembling the drive sprockets, idler wheels, and (plethora of) road wheels, and then setting them aside until later in construction. Return rollers on the final drive (parts A19) are provided as an option in the kit, but we decided ▶



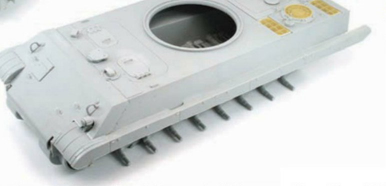


The lower hull tub with torsion bars and sponsons attached.

The rear hull plate and exhausts are configured just as they would be on a Panther Ausf. G. However, the false rear hull added in a later step conceals much of this detail.



The engine deck bustles with details, all of which are included as separate parts in the kit, including the photo-etched screens. Note the dummy travel lock positioned at the back of the vehicle.



The modified glacis and bow plate mimic the American M10's contours. Modified angular side panels replace the Panther's schurzen.

not to add them because these rollers were not evident in any of our reference photos.

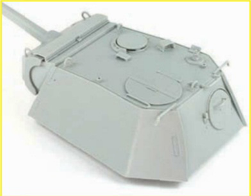
The individual torsion bars for the suspension were added to the one-piece hull as indicated. A modicum of care is needed to ensure the parts are attached and aligned properly, but this should not present much of a hurdle because the instructions are very clear in this regard. For those inclined, the suspension can be repositioned with relative ease to reflect a vehicle driving over uneven terrain. We kept the suspension on our model uniformly aligned so that we could depict the vehicle traveling along a dirt road in the Ardennes.

The kit supplies separate right and left sponsons (parts D8 and D9, respectively) for the lower hull, although the need for these as separate parts from the lower hull is unclear. Perhaps the lower hull tub was used in a different kit where this was necessary. In any case, fit was not a problem.

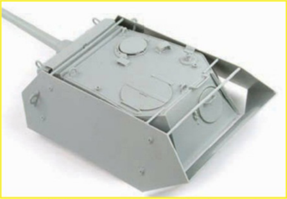
Next we turned our attention to the back end of the vehicle. Not surprisingly, the rear hull plate and exhausts are configured just as they would be on a Panther. Dragon has done an excellent job representing the detail in this area. However, once the fake rear hull (part F9) is added in step 15, only the tips of the exhausts on the Panther's rear plate remain visible. On our model, the fake rear hull required careful dry fitting and minor trimming before we committed to glue.

The engine deck is very well detailed, with radiators, radiator fans, (photo-etched) screens, louvres, handles, and numerous access ports and lids supplied as separate parts. A dummy rear travel lock (part F28) is also supplied. No engine or interior

A false mantlet helps to disguise the main gun's true identity.

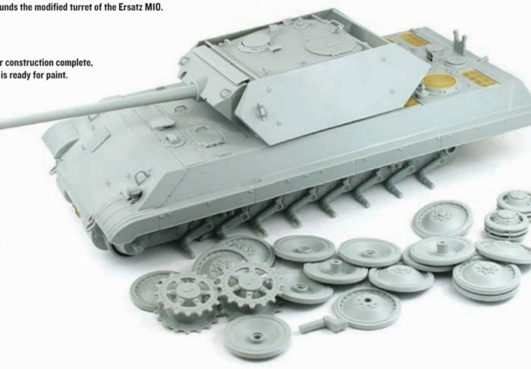


The Panther's turret assembly is simple yet effective. A split hatch replaces the commander's cupola. The two angled braces extending off the rear of the turret help support the armour shell that surrounds the modified turret of the Ersatz M10.



The turret's disguise is complete. The false mantlet, split hatch, and armour shell provide a reasonable approximation of the M10's open turret design, at least from the view of soldiers on the ground.

The one-piece armoured shell is now fixed in place. The attachments points, particularly at the front, are quite fragile.



With major construction complete, the model is ready for paint.

We pre-shaded the model lightly in black prior to the application of camouflage.

A mixture of Tamiya Olive Drab (XF-62) and Field Grey (XF-65) was used to represent the olive drab camouflage applied by the Germans.

The model looks rather bland after the initial application of the base colour.

details are provided in the kit, but aftermarket items designed for the Dragon Panther Ausf. G will accommodate those wanting to go a step further with their Ersatz M10.

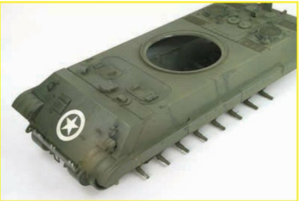
Modified side panels designed to mimic the M10's appearance replace the Panther's distinctive schurzen. These new side panels attach over the base kit's sides. As with the fake rear hull, careful test fitting of the side panels is needed before committing to glue. That said, no major difficulty was encountered with their attachment. The kit also supplies photo-etched hangers for the spare track on the sides. We attached these hangers with small amounts of cyanoacrylate glue. The spare tracks were added later as one of the finishing touches to the model.

The bow and glacis of the Ersatz M10 were heavily modified to resemble its American counterpart. Note that, depending on the variant you choose to build, different sets of holes on the glacis need to be drilled out (refer to step 10 of the instructions). Modellers may choose to leave off the small hatch that covers the Panther's bow gun - photos of disabled and abandoned Ersatz M10s show the cover removed. We opted to close the hatch on our model.

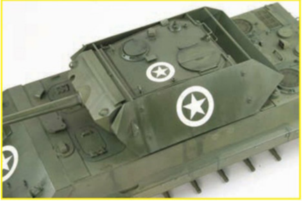
The turret assembly is simple and effective. The main gun barrel is supplied as a single piece with a faint seam along its length. This seam is easy to remove with light sanding. The muzzle brake is well represented in styrene and presented no difficulty to attach. Two false M10 mantlets are provided in the kit, depending on which variant you choose to represent, and the Panther's cupola is appropriately replaced with two flat covers. A thinly moulded, one-piece styrene shell is used to depict the sheet metal that surrounds the turret. This plate is attached to the turret via a number of small styrene rods, and is therefore quite fragile and susceptible to breakage when handled. Take care while painting and weathering the turret.

CAMOUFLAGE, MARKINGS, AND MUD

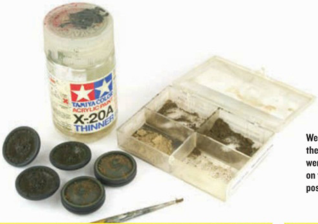
After initially spraying the model with a base coat of Polly Scale Black, we shifted our attention to the camouflage. The instructions ▶



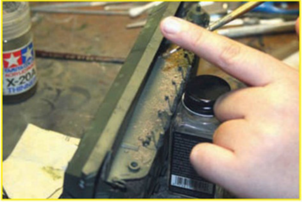
Subtle variations of the base colour were applied to break up the monotone appearance of the camouflage. Thinned Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black paint was used to create the impression of spills, stains, and the general accumulation of grime.



Decals were added over a gloss coat of Future Floor Polish. Later, the model was sprayed with a 50/50 mixture of Polly Scale Clear Flat and Clear Satin to take away some of the shine.

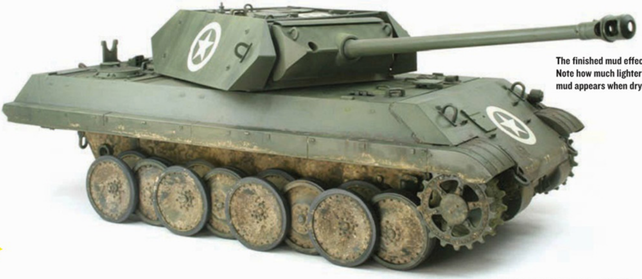


Weathering pigments were used to simulate layers of dried mud on the road wheels. Liberal amounts of Tamiya X-20A acrylic thinner were dabbed over the pigments, causing them to blend and settle on the surfaces. As the thinner dried the pigments cemented into position and returned to their original, lighter colours.



Weathering pigments were also applied to lowers areas of the main hull and side panels.

Tamiya thinner is applied liberally with a brush. The drying process can be accelerated using a hair drier or by blowing air through an airbrush hose over the model.



The finished mud effect. Note how much lighter the mud appears when dry.

Chalk pastels, primarily medium green and black, were applied with a brush to add highlights and shadows to the model's surfaces.

PANTHER
Late Type Tracks.
ATL-08

The Friulmodel tracks were easy to assemble once the hollow guide horns were cleaned up with a #11 blade. A drop of CA glue was used to hold each wire in place. The extended tips of wires were later trimmed with scissors and filed flush to the track links with a Dremel tool.

The metal track is temporarily fitted to the model. The number of links can be adjusted if there is too little or too much sag in the track. The positioning of the idler wheel can also be adjusted to fine tune tension on the track.

call out for uniform Olive Drab, which makes sense given that the Germans were attempting to mimic an American M10. However, it is unclear whether the Germans used captured American Olive Drab paint or their own paint supplies to approximate Olive Drab. We opted for the latter scenario, and created a camouflage colour based on a mixture of Tamiya Olive Drab (XF-62) and field grey (XF-65). Subtle variations to the camouflage colour were applied with an airbrush to create shadows, highlights, and fading as desired.

Next we sprayed the model with a gloss coat of Future Floor Polish in preparation for decals. We opted to represent our vehicle as "B4" because we preferred the option that had the large white circles surrounding the stars on the turret (the other marking option employed just the stars). The decals supplied in the kit performed flawlessly using the MicroSet/MicroSol application system. Once the decals were completely dry, we sprayed the model with a coat of Polly Scale Clear Flat and Clear Satin, mixed in equal amounts and diluted 50% with Testor's Universal Acrylic Thinner. This mixture dulled the model's surfaces while still leaving a slight sheen.

Washes of Tamiya XF-1 Flat Black mixed with a touch of Tamiya XF-64 Red Brown were applied to recesses on the model to help pick out the details. SnJ metallic polishing powder was rubbed sparingly onto the teeth of the drive sprockets to simulate wear. Polly Scale "Grimy Black" was used for the rubber on the road wheels.

We used Weather System weathering pigments ("Dust Bowl Brown" and "Weathered Brown", in various mixtures) to simulate dried mud on the wheels and lower reaches of the hull, glacis and side panels. We sprinkled the pigments onto the model and then dabbed liberal amounts of Tamiya X-20A acrylic thinner over them with a brush. The pigments cemented into position as the thinner dried . This process was repeated until the desired mud effect was achieved.

Weathering pigments were also dry-brushed onto the model to simulate fading and the accumulation of dust on upper surfaces. However, we kept the weathering muted because from what we could gather, these modified vehicles really didn't see much, if any, action prior to the assault on Malmedy. Heavy chipping and paint wear was not warranted in our opinion.

TRACKING OUR PROGRESS

With painting complete we attached the previously assembled drive sprockets, road wheels, and idler wheels to the model. The drive sprockets were left free to spin so that we could feed the Friulmodel tracks over their teeth. We did not glue the idler wheel suspension struts in place until after the tracks had been added and their tension had been adjusted to create the desired sag.

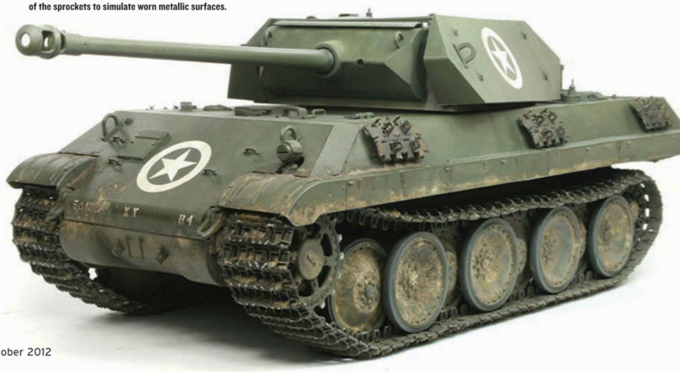
We chose Friulmodel tracks over the kit's "Magic Track" because we like the natural sag that metal tracks achieve through their weight, and because we happened to have an appropriate set of Friulmodel tracks on hand when we started building the model. Unfortunately, unlike most of my experiences with Friulmodel tracks, the white metal parts on this set required considerable cleanup because the hollow guide horns on many of the links were partially or completely filled in. A sharp #11 blade was used to open the guide horns, and after a few hours of tedium we were back in business.

We primed the assembled tracks with Tamiya fine grey surface primer, and then painted them with Polly Scale "Railroad Tie Brown" followed by washes of Tamiya black and (highly thinned) Polly Scale "SP Daylight Orange". The metal tracks fit perfectly around the teeth of the drive sprockets, and the guide horns slid past the road wheels and idlers without trouble.

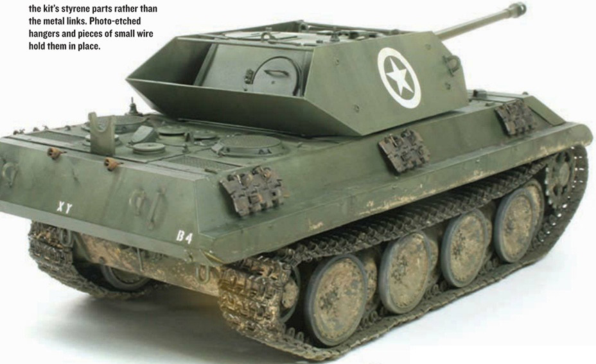
As a finishing touch, we applied small amounts of 'mud' (described earlier) to the tracks, and we lightly sanded some of the raised surfaces to expose the metal underneath.

(MODELLING) TABLE FOR TWO

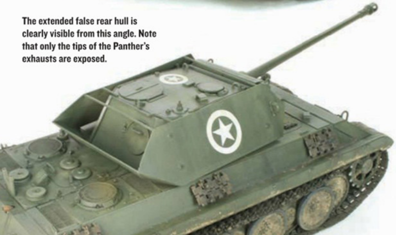
For many people, myself included, model building is largely an individual pursuit. But if you get the chance to share the hobby with a son or daughter, whether



The tracks were painted Polly Scale "Railroad Tie Brown" mixed with Black and a touch of SP Daylight Orange. Weathering pigments were applied sparingly to simulate mud in the track's recesses. SnJ polishing powder was used on the teeth of the sprockets to simulate worn metallic surfaces.

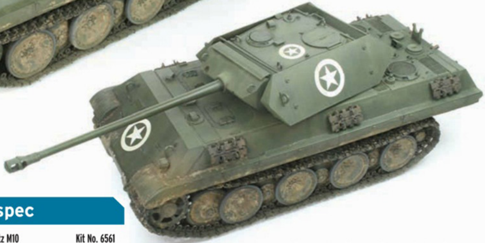


The spare tracks applied to the sides of the hull were made from the kit's styrene parts rather than the metal links. Photo-etched hangers and pieces of small wire hold them in place.



The extended false rear hull is clearly visible from this angle. Note that only the tips of the Panther's exhausts are exposed.

through collaborative projects like this one, or by simply providing them with encouragement and guidance on their own projects, I highly recommend it. Seeing the excitement in a young builder's eyes serves as a reminder of why we got into the hobby in the first place, and offers a chance to relive old memories and create new ones. This will not be my last collaborative model-building effort with Trevor.... unless of course he decides I'm holding him back! ■



Despite the efforts to disguise the Panther as an M10 Wolverine, from this angle there is no mistaking what lies beneath the façade.

Modelspec

Dragon 1:35 Ersatz M10 **Kit No. 6561**

Accessories

Friulmodel Panther late type tracks (item ATL-08)

Paints & Weathering Materials

Tamiya Primer: Fine Gray Surface Primer
Tamiya Acrylics: XF-62 Olive Drab, XF-65 Field Grey
Polly Scale Acrylics: Black, Scale Black, Railroad Tie Brown, SP Daylight Orange
Weather System Pigments: Dust Bowl Brown, Weathered Brown
SnJ Model Products: Spray Metal Polishing Powder (item 1358 – Aluminum)

✓ Base kit is Dragon's excellent Panther Ausf. G. "Smart Kit". Conversion parts equal the base kit in quality.

✗ None worth mentioning.

Available from

Dragon kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

Rating ●●●●●●●●●○

The two modellers, pleased with the final result and the effort it took to get there.

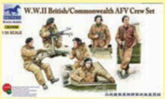
HANNANTS
'Europe's Number One Model Shops'
www.hannants.co.uk

NEW from Bronco Models

CB35069
US Light Tank M-24 'Chaffee' (WWII Prod.) with Tank Crew Set
£37.99

CB35084
British/Commonwealth Bofors Gun crew set
£11.99

CB35089
1:35 Bruckenleger Auf Pz.Kpfw.II ausf D1
£27.99



CB35098
1:35 British/Commonwealth AFV Crew set
£11.20

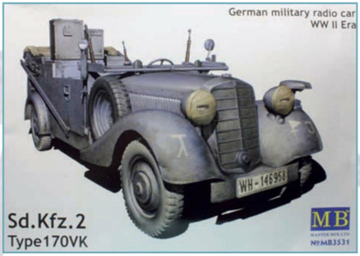
CB35102
US 155mm Howitzer M114A1 (Vietnam War)
£22.50

CB35103
German Telemeter KDO Mod.40 with Sd.Anh 52 Trailer (Kommando-Gerät 40)
£19.99

ZB48002
1:48 T17E2 Staghound A.A.
£19.99

H.G.Hannant Ltd,
Harbour Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 3LZ, England.
Open from 09.00 to 17.30 Monday to Saturday.
Phone: 00 44 (0)1502 517444 (8 lines)
0845 130 72 48 local rate
from UK phones only (NOT mobiles)
Fax: 00 44 (0)1502 500521
E-Mail: sales@hannants.co.uk
Web Site: www.hannants.co.uk
To join our mailing list so you receive our free weekly email news letter please use this link:
www.hannants.co.uk/cgi-bin/mailinglist.pl

Andy King examines Masterbox's new and nicely detailed 1:35 scale Sd.Kfz 2 Type 170VK WWII German Military Radio Car.



Sd.Kfz.2, Type170VK
German military radio car, WW II Era

A variety of colour schemes are offered on the back of the box.

THREE POINTED RADIO CAR

The Mercedes-Benz Type 170VK was developed from the Type 170V specifically for the military and was mainly used as a scout or communications vehicle, usually fitted with two field radio sets. A small maintenance vehicle was another version and carried a spare parts box and folding workbench. Produced between 1938 and 1942, the car featured a couple of innovative designs such as an X-shaped chassis made from oval tube and all-round independent suspension but although this design of chassis made it quite tough, cross country performance was poor due to the low height of the body. Over 19,000 were built, which served mainly in the Blitzkrieg era and the invasion of Russia. No doubt it turned up in other places too.

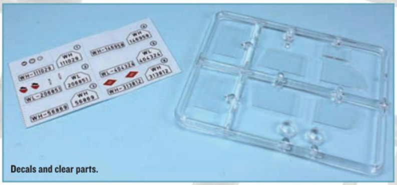
This is a new 1:35 scale kit by Masterbox and it looks to be a nice replica of the real vehicle. In the box there are over 240 parts including the vinyl tyres and a small decal sheet. The parts themselves have some flash, sink and pin marks present especially on the inside of the doors and these will be visible if you are displaying the model with the roof down, the clear parts for the windows are very good though. The engine is made up of 19 parts and well detailed, all that you would need to add here are the ignition leads and the chassis is a good replica of the x-shape which was made out of oval tube. The steering is fixed but with a little work the front wheels can be posed to give a bit more interest.

The instructions are well laid out but have what Masterbox call 'Variants of Assembly'. This basically means you have the option of doors, bonnet and windows open or closed and the roof on or off. There is an alternate part for the front grill (B46) and making an educated guess here it looks to be for a vehicle in the winter time.

The painting instructions are on the back of the box and mainly feature all grey vehicles with a couple in camouflage and a single example in winter white. There are six sets of license plates on the decal sheet with four Army and two Luftwaffe vehicles represented, along with a couple of divisional markings but no clues as to where they go. While on the subject there are three decals for the instrument panel, something not mentioned anywhere in the instructions or painting guide.

This is quite a nice little kit and with a relatively low parts count shouldn't be too taxing to assemble. The only annoying thing is the lack of part numbers on the sprues so you have to keep referring back to the second page of the instructions for them. Apart from that, it comes highly recommended and I look forward to seeing more of these types of vehicle from Masterbox. ■

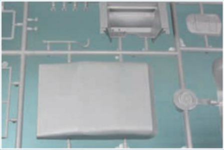
Tyres are supplied in black vinyl.



Decals and clear parts.

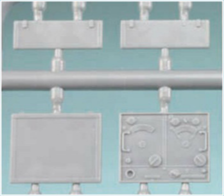
Thanks to Creative Models Limited for the sample
www.creativemodels.co.uk

A winter radiator cover is provided as an option.



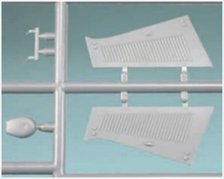
The separate top.

The lower body is provided as one part.

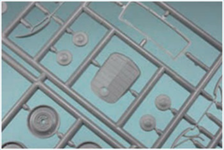


The radio and other smaller details are very nicely done.

The X-shaped chassis rails.



Separate engine covers may be posed to display the engine.



The standard radiator grille and wheel hub detail.

EURO MILITAIRE

27 Years of Premier Military Modelling

22nd -23rd September 2012 • The Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone.

BEST IN SHOW

- The finest models and dioramas in the military modelling world on display
- International traders and competitors

The finest accolade in the modelling world

Don't miss Euro Militaire 2012, this year promises to be better than ever with tough competitions to enter and win including the prestigious Euro Militaire 'Best in Show'.

There will be demonstrations on painting and sculpting by leading modelling experts over the two days. Also attending the show will be powerful brands such as Historex Agents, Pegaso Models and Badger Air-Brush Company.

EURO MILITAIRE
POUR LE MERITE

Pre-book your tickets now to make savings and guarantee your entry!

1 DAY

Adult:	1 day	£ 9.00	SAVE 10%
Concession:	1 day	£ 5.50	SAVE 15%
Child:	1 day	£ 5.50	SAVE 15%
Family:	1 day	£ 25.00	SAVE 3%

2 DAYS

Adult:	2 day	£ 13.00	SAVE 7%
Concession:	2 day	£ 8.00	SAVE 11%
Child:	2 day	£ 8.00	SAVE 11%
Family:	2 day	£ 35.00	SAVE 2%

☎ 0844 848 8822 www.euromilitaire.co.uk/tickets

TICKET HOTLINES OPEN: 10am - 4pm Monday – Friday *(not weekends or bank holidays)*

*Tickets will be dispatched two weeks prior to the event. Closing date for early bird tickets is 07/09/12.

www.euromilitaire.co.uk

eduard

Leaves palm and cactus

colour photo-etched sets

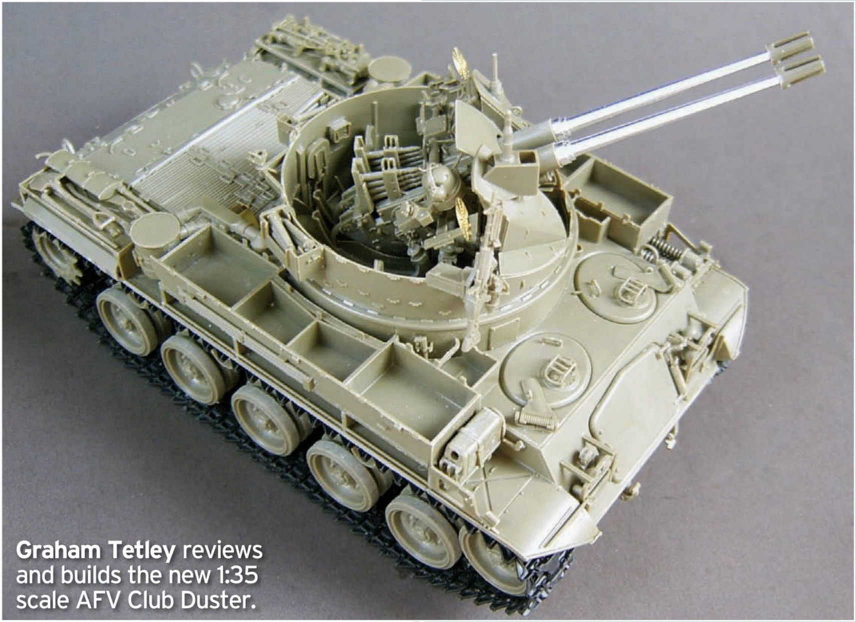
1/72

Grass, rocks, spreadings, trunks and cocos are not included in Eduard products.

73441
Leaves Palm Cocos Nucifera colour
1/72

73437
Cactus colour
1/72

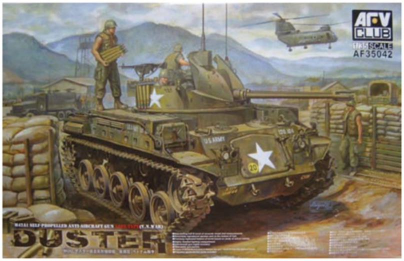
www.eduard.com



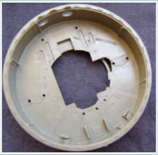
Graham Tetley reviews and builds the new 1:35 scale AFV Club Duster.

A LIGHT DUSTING

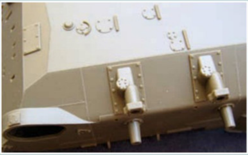
Although designed to fulfil the anti-aircraft role, the Duster proved ineffective against modern jets but came into its own when engaging ground targets. It Vietnam especially, it proved devastating to attacking infantry and also helped to fill the convoy escort role. In service with the US Army from the mid 1950's, it is mainly remembered for its service in Vietnam but it also had a love affair with Hollywood. A Duster



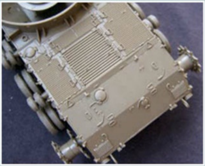
AFV Club's box art is also included as frameable artwork inside the box.



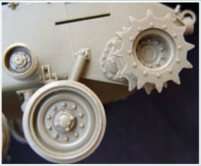
The hull tub and those annoying sink marks.



Some lovely detail on the lower hull



The rear hull panels fixed in place.



A close up of the sprocket and wheel detail.

had a bit-part as a road block in the film 'Convoy' and one also saw action (and was destroyed) when North America was invaded by the Russians and Nicaraguans in 1980 courtesy of 'Red Dawn'. Soldiering on with the National Guard until 1988, the Duster also saw service in the armies of West Germany, Japan, Taiwan, South Vietnam and a few others.

AFV Club's Duster has been rumoured for 3 or 4 years, but it is finally here. So has it been worth the wait? Read on!

The kit comes on several sprues, some of which we have seen before but most of it is new. In the main it is nicely moulded, although there are many areas where flash is present and, as you will see, knock-out pin marks deface the surface detail on too many parts. Two turned metal barrels are provided for the Bofors, as well as two metal springs for the spare barrels. The etched fret is limited to three parts – two gun sights and one cover for the engine exhaust outlet cover. Marketed as a 'late' version, parts are in the box to depict the main features of an 'early' version too.

BUILDING THE DUSTER

Construction conventionally starts with the road wheels, sprockets and suspension system. Poly caps are trapped between the wheel halves so they can be easily removed for painting. I encountered no problems in this part of construction, but my kit contained an addendum sheet with corrected instructions that I only found after the correctly drawn parts had been glued in their incorrect positions! My addendum sheet was hiding under the box art painting that AFV Club provide, so check your kit for this before you start.

We next move on to the rear hull where again I advise you to follow the correction sheet. The only problem here is that the location hole for the crowbar is bigger than it needs to be: you can see this in the associated photos. I suggest here that you deviate from the instructions and fully complete the attachment of the engine deck, front glacis and hull roof. AFV Club has you fit the turret sidewalls only at this stage, but it is best to line everything up before you apply the glue. Generally the fit is okay, but I followed the instructions and had to re-locate the hull roof (with the two hatches) a little bit further back to get the front glacis to fit.

Here is where two major niggles rear their head. The front hull hatch and driver's hatches are marred with ejector pin marks on their inner surfaces, so if you want to display them open (no interior comes with the kit by the way) there is quite a bit of clean-up to do. Also, on many of the small parts I found it difficult to identify where the part started and the thick sprue attachment point ended. I ruined a few parts by mistakenly chopping off detail that looked like it was the sprue attachment. Be careful.

Construction now moves on to the fenders, stowage boxes and the air cleaners. The fender parts themselves have some lovely detail on the underside but, again, the ejector pin marks are on the top. Fortunately most of them cannot be seen as they are hidden by other parts. The stowage bins are multi-part assemblies that fit together well and all of the bin lids are separate parts, so you can fill the bins with spares if you want. The exhaust assemblies are added next and, as you can see, I built the whole lot as one and then fixed them to the hull sides because the fit of the parts is so good that you can do this with ease.

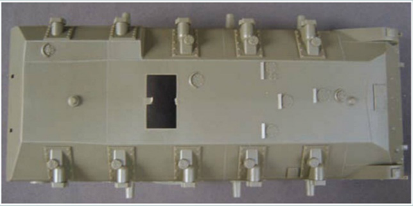
I must make mention of the spare gun barrels here, as the way that AFV Club have depicted them is superb. The barrels themselves are plastic, but you get a metal spring for each that is secured in place by two plastic parts. The barrels themselves fit into a separate 'bed' and slot underneath a plastic bracket & wing nut, as well as another part affixed to the hull. It is all very well done but mostly hidden when the bins are glued over the top.

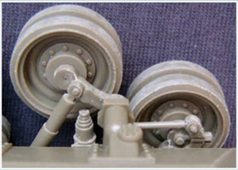
The air cleaners are a distinctive part of the Duster and AFV Club has given us sub-assemblies that fit perfectly. No more needs to be said, other than 'Wow!' To finish off this part of the construction you add the tools and the spare tracks, but the instructions and the parts need correction. Firstly, the instructions have you place the spade over the mount for the exhaust for the turret power generator. You can see the glue mark on the part where the instructions got the better of me. Moving over to the spare tracks, the parts that fit over them have locating pips molded on them but the corresponding holes are missing. You have to shave off the pips to get them to fit – a minor irritation.

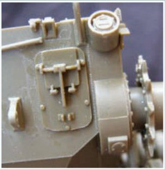
40MM OF PAIN

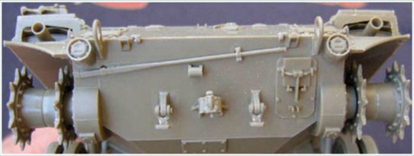
So, with the hull complete, we move onto the turret tub. Guess what? Yes, more great big ejector pin marks in full view, when the plain undersides are as smooth a baby's proverbial. Also, as you can see from the photo, the main hull tub has some significant sink marks in it. Come on AFV Club, you can do better than this. ▶

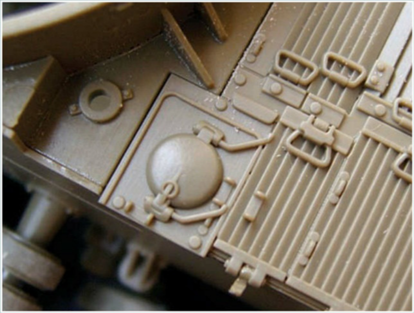
One completed hull side, minus tracks.

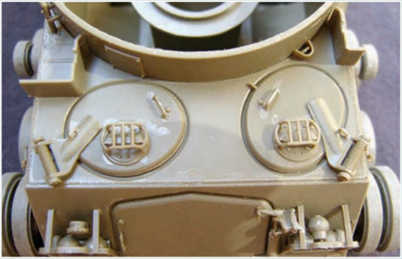

So much for recycling - the spent shells came out of here.

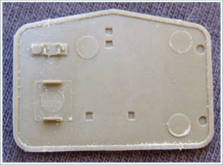

Detail on the rear of the roadwheels, before I brushed them!

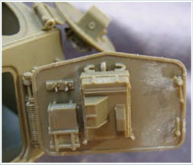

Detail on the final drive housing.


The rear plate. Note the oversized location holes for the crowbar


Just add fuel... lots of it!

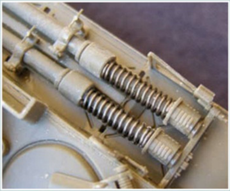

The front hull roof and the periscope guards.

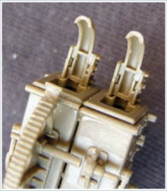

The front hatch and those ejector pin marks


The cleaned up front hull hatch.

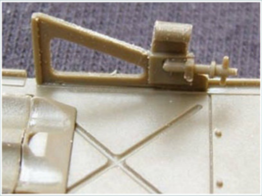
Close up of the drivers hatch.

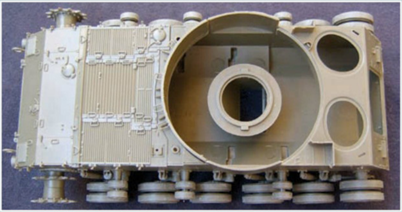
The tiny hatch locking mechanism.

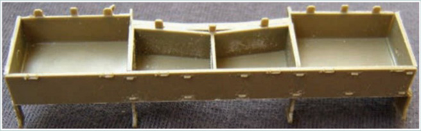

Close up of the barrel springs and securing mount.

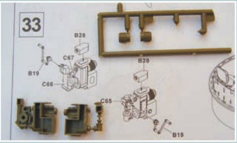

Shells come out here.

This is what a Duster exhaust looks like.


The locking mechanism for the spare barrel support.

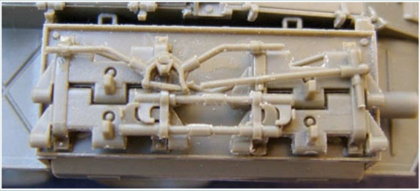

The completed upper hull showing the turret tub mounting point.


One side stowage bin, minus lids.



Step 33 and the missing Part 49

I have not had to do this in decades!

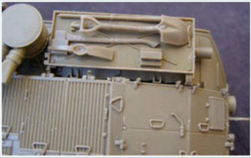

Tool stowage over the spare tracks.

To this tub you add the seats and other fittings and it get busy very quickly. I skipped ahead here and started assembly on the guns. Sadly, the fit here is poor so I recommend that you glue the upper and lower panels to one gun half, glue together Parts C39 & 40 and fix them to one gun half, remove all locating pins, sand down the flash, then join the two halves together. Fix the shell ejection chutes in place (Parts B6 and C13 & 15) but allow them to dry as the fit to the main chutes is very tight. I followed the instructions here to the letter and next assembled the pistons that, if you are careful with the glue, are fully workable. The fit of the piston chambers (part B23) to the mount (part C42) was poor, so do your best and let it fully dry. Fitting the guns and pistons to the mounts is very fiddly, but it can be done and the whole lot is fully workable and a thing of beauty when completed. Once that is done, we move on to the gun elevation parts and another instructions blooper. You need to add Part 49 to the two main parts in Step 33 as shown in the accompanying photo.

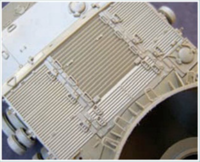
The sighting system is next to receive our attention. I would recommend that you don't fit the gun shield supports (Parts C7 & 8) in Step 29 but leave them until the sight assembly is affixed to the guns. I did as the instructions said and found that the mounts fouled the location of the sight mount part C1. That aside however, when completed it is very well detailed and, again, the sight does move with the elevation of the guns.

To finish off construction we have the gun tub armour and all I will say is that please test fit everything before you apply the glue. It would be better to add the internal detail to the side armour parts D17 & 18 and fix them in place before you add the distinctive curved armour front shields.

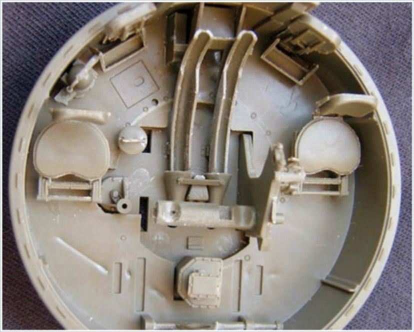
You get to add a lovely M60 as a close defence weapon with two possible location points, and I have to say that the pintle mounts for these are beautifully done. To finish the kit off the tracks come as one-piece lengths with lovely detail back and front. However, mine would not stick with liquid poly glue. I tried Humbrol and Tamiya extra thin, but the tracks just shrugged off the glue and were taunting me mercilessly. I have had to use superglue, but even that

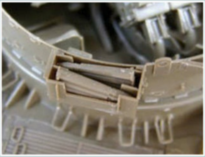

The tool stowage. Note the glue mark caused by unclear instructions.

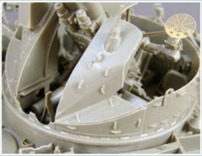
AAARRGGHH!

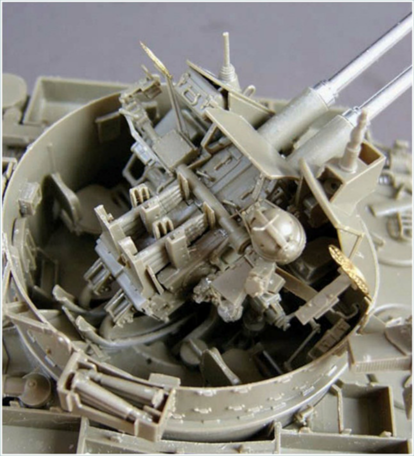

The engine deck in all its glorious detail.

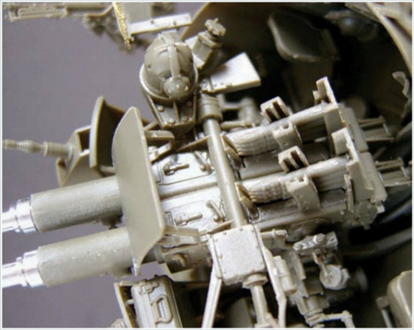
More pin marks to taunt me.

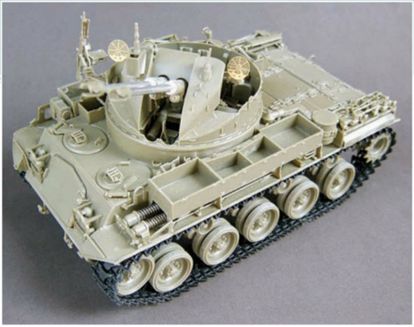

The hull tub before the guns are added.


Shell stowage.


Close up of the gun shield and sight.


It is busy inside that turret.


The gun detail in close-up.


The completed model.

would not stick them together. As you can see, I stapled them together in the end and will replace them with individual links in time.

CONCLUSION

So that is it. We have a new Duster kit that consigns Tamiya's 40 year old dinosaur to the bin. The kit itself is nicely detailed and fits together well, but I was left somewhat disappointed by the instructional errors, thick sprue attachment points, ejector pin marks and excessive flash. As I pointed out above, some parts that should be used are not indicated in the instructions so I do have to wonder if many of the unused parts should actually go somewhere. To summarise I would say that this kit needs more clean-up than many other new releases and is marred by instructional errors. However, it does build up beautifully and gets a deserved 7/10. ■

AFV Club kits are available online from Hannants www.hannants.co.uk

Joe Brown takes a trip to Sheffield to visit Swann-Morton on their 80th birthday

SWANN MORTON
MEDICAL TO MODELS

The name Swann-Morton instantly brings images of scalpels and blades to most modellers' minds, but delve deeper below the surface and you find a company which celebrates its 80th birthday that has been on the 'cutting edge' of blade technology since its inception all those years ago. Even today they are still saving lives worldwide, with their instruments being used by 95% of UK hospitals alone.

The small silver packets that you unwrap before the start of a fresh model-build and click into place on your favourite sized scalpel holder have an amazing history behind them and it all started with just three people; Walter Swann, Alfred Morton and Miss Doris Fairweather. They founded the company in 1932 Called W R Swann & Co. Mr Swann had four founding principles to run the company by.

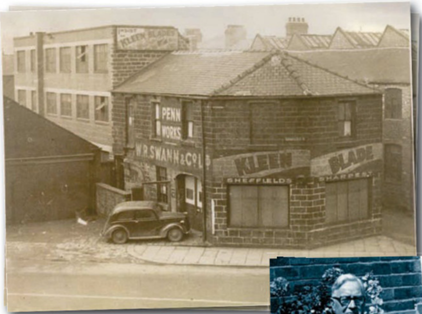
1; The individuals in the industry must come first, before anything else and should always remain first. They are the human beings on which everything is built.
2; If the industry cannot pay the rightful reward of labour (while they are producing profit for the owners) then a new policy is required on the part of the management to make it do so.
3; If the Management can't do the job, then a new management is required, as well as a new policy.
4; Individuals in any industry have a perfect right to demand and see that this objective is reached, because they produce the goods.

Running out of a small workshop behind houses in Sheffield's Woodland Street, the team began to make the 'Kleen Blade, Sheffield's Sharpest Razor Blade'.

The small firm built their own machinery and devices which were kept as simple as possible, although quality and service was utmost importance and was kept at a high level, which ensured a good business practice. Any profits in the early years simply went back into the growth of the company. The founding principles ensured care for the workers and they benefited from previously unheard of schemes, such as substantial bonuses at Christmas and the introduction and origin of the forty-hour week before Boots of Nottingham brought it to the public eye. The quality of production brought the firm to the attention of Surgical House who approached them to produce a range of replaceable blade for scalpel handles. After a short period of time, the Swann-Morton Scalpel was born.

Since then the range has grown exponentially into a huge range of handle sizes and types along with a huge array of different styles of blades, including the micro surgery blade used in dentistry. It was only a matter of time before the modelling brigade picked up the Swann-Morton line and to keep costs down a non-sterile version was soon released.

Every modeller has a preference of handle and blade type combination and to coincide with the company's 80th birthday the company has re-launched the entire range in a clamshell pack design to make identifying the products clearer.



The Second Factory still in existence today just a short distance from "Penn Works".

Walter Swann, one of the four founding members of whom the company is named after.

Swann-Morton
1932-2012
PENN WORKS

The Meeting room at Swann Morton houses this impressive replica of the Swann Morton Factory.

“I have been using Swann-Morton scalpels for modelling for twenty-five to thirty years, I have never needed anything else. I use three No.3 handles mounting No.10, No.15c and No.11 blades for general work, plus a long No.5 handle with a No.10a blade for more delicate tasks. My handles are very well used but still work perfectly and have served me well over the years. I must have used thousands of blades and I find nothing can match them for sharpness, precision and durability.”

Marcus Nicholls – Editor of TMMI

“I have been using Swann Morton scalpels for over thirty years now. The good old No.3 handle and 10a blades; I would be lost without them!”

Alan Bottoms

“I use Swann-Morton knives on a daily basis for work and for scale modelling. As a set designer and kite maker I use the 3 Series knives with the various lengths of handle. For scale modelling I use a variety of handles and blades, from No.1 to No.5. with curved and straight blades. The surgical accuracy of the blades is essential to creating very precise results. With such a wide complement of blades and mixture of handles, every task is simplified making each project enjoyable and safe. (As they say, a sharp knife is a safe knife). The Swann-Morton range of precision knives enables me to produce results in model making that I could not other wise attain.”

Carl Robertshaw

“I have been using Swann-Morton scalpels from my college days for everything from dissecting, taxidermy, art and crafts and of course for all my modelling needs; their range is of truly professional quality and I really use nothing else.”

Andy Ieronymides

Swann-Morton
A.C.M SET

New style packaging for the Hobby industry.

Swann-Morton
A.C.M. SET
(ARTS, CRAFT & MODELLERS SET)
Product No. 9101

The Popular Arts, Craft & Modellers set (ACM) is one of the best sellers.

Swann-Morton
SMOR II HANDLE & 2 SM01 BLADES
Surgical quality blade.
Cutting edge performance meeting the demands of professionals.
Blades protected in anti-corrosion packaging.
Other blade options on the inside.
www.craftknives.co.uk
CAUTION SHARP BLADES

A nod on the packaging to the British manufacturing with the Union Flag proudly displayed.

SMO-R II knife is brand new for 2012 and ideal for cutting jobs that require a bit more power than a scalpel.

> ***"I use Swann-Morton products and have done so for over thirty years because they are readily available, are the very best cutting blades, are excellent value for money and come in a good range of useful shapes and sizes."***
>
> **John 'Tigger' Wilkes**

> ***"A good knife is essential for kit building and any knife is only as good as the blade. I've used Swann-Morton knives for over twenty years and they are always razor sharp and hold their edge for a long time."***
>
> **Alan Price**

Swann-Morton
TD

Sheffield time, the Swann-Morton clock proudly shows the people of Sheffield that it's afternoon tea time!

SURGICAL STEEL

No matter where you are in the world, if you have ever had an operation, you have probably been operated on with one of these knifes. The preferred choice of many of the world's surgeons, the wide and varied range of products is also used extensively by other healthcare professionals such as GPs, nurses and paramedics along with practitioners in the associated fields of dentistry, podiatry and veterinary surgery. The only differing factor is that all surgical equipment has gone through a sterilisation period which ensures the blade is totally free of any contamination when it is put to use. Again Swann-Morton along with UKAE at Wantage pioneered the method of sterilisation using gamma radiation, before this the company used a 'vapour phase inhibitor paper' inserted into foil to keep the blades clean, dry and non-rusting, another first in the industry.

We spoke to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital in the UK about their use of Swann-Morton scalpels in everyday surgery.

> ***"We wish Swann-Morton good wishes for their 80th anniversary. Each year we use over 7,000 disposable Swann-Morton knives at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital and their knives have a reputation as being the standard scalpel knife for surgeons worldwide."***
>
> **Barry Mayes (Head Of Communications) speaking on behalf of the surgical staff**

With the foresight of the founders and the technological advances taken by the company, it's no wonder that Swann-Morton Blades are helping to save lives everyday as well as helping to make the finest models that we bring to you in this magazine. Happy Birthday Swann-Morton from all at Model Military Illustrated! ■

LSA MODELS

www.lsamodels.co.uk

Retail Shop Open Mon-Sat 9.30am-5.30pm
(Closed Wednesdays)

the Eduard specialists

TELEPHONE: 01273 705420 MOBILE: 07973 551470

Eduard releases Sept

PE-SETS

7034	USS Lexington CV-2 05/1942 1/700 .. Tru	£21.50
36205	Leaves Oak spring 1/35	£15.50
36220	MPCV 6x6 Buffalo 1/35 .... Bronco	£12.75
36223	Garden Flowers 1/35	£15.50
73440	Wild Flowers,Butterfly 1/72	£12.75
99061	USN Aircraft 1/350	£11.75

MASKS

XT186	M-113 ACAV wheel masks 1/35 .... Ita	£7.95

Eduard New Releases August

PE-SETS

24016	Sabelt red 1999-2002 1/24	£12.75
36213	M-ATV MRAP int 1/35 .... Kine	£16.75
36218	Leaves Oak autumn 1/35	£15.50
36221	M-ATV MRAP ext 1/35 .... Kine	£23.50
36222	M-ATV MRAP seatbelts 1/35 .... Kine	£15.50
36224	M-ATV OGPK overhead cover 1/35 ... Kine	£16.75
73424	Zuikaku Carrier deck lift area 1/72	£15.50
73437	Cactus colour 1/72	£12.75
73442	Leaves Palm 1/72	£13.75
99042	Illustrious class Helicopters 1/350	£9.00

MASKS

XT185	M 1070 Truck Tractor 1/35 .... Hob Boss	£7.95

Dragon New items

D1045	1/350 USS FRANK KNOX DD-742	£52.50
D6451	1/35 PZKFPW I AUSF A 4 SERIE/LA S	£39.99
D6568	1/35 FIREFLY IC WELDED HULL	£49.99
D6584	T-34/76 MOD 1943 W/COMMANDER CUPOLA	£47.50
D6612	1/35SDKFZ STUG IV LATE PROD	£49.99
D6627	1/35 M7 PRIEST EARLY PROD	£49.99
D6694	1/35 DEFENSE OF THE REICH	£13.99
D6714	1/351/4 4X4 ARMOURED TRUCK	£29.99
D6728	1/35 ARDELT REHEINMETALL 8.8CM PAK	£45.99
D7439	1/72 L R D G PATROL	£18.99
D7444	1/72 SD KFZ 263 SCHWERER PANZER	£18.99
D75031	1/6 GERMAN BICYCLE W/PANZERFAUST 60	£24.50
D75034	1/6 BRIT WELBIKE	£19.99
D6552	1/35 BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE	£15.99
D6584	T-34/76 MOD 1943 W/COMMANDER CUPOLA	£47.50
D6739	1/35 SD KFZ 10/4 FUR 2CM FLAK 30	£44.50
D7290	1/72 PZ III AUSF M/N	£18.99
D7437	1/72 NEUBAU-FAHRZEUG NR 2	£18.99
D7446	1/72 SD KFZ 260 KLEINE PANZERFUNK	£15.99
D75036	1/6 GERMAN FLAMMENWERFER 35	£16.99

Tamiya New Kits

14035	1/12 Honda CBR400F LTD	£26.50
16036	1/6 YAMAHA MOTOCROSS YZ250	£89.99
E002	1/20 Rob Walker Lotus 72C G.Hill	£49.99
31712	1/700 USS Yorktown CV-5	£29.99
32572	1/48 Matilda MKIII/IV Brit Inf Tank	£24.99
35095	1/35 JAP Type 1 (Ltd)	£24.99
35137	1/35 JAP Type 97 Med Tank (Ltd)	£24.99
35325	1/35 Elefant Sd.Kfz.184	£57.99
25152	1/35 Italeri SAS Car 1944 2 FIG	£24.99
25153	1/35 Russian Kubelwagen with 4 fig	£27.50
25154	German Officer & tank Crewman	£12.50
89785	LRDG w/Breda 20mm Ltd white box	£29.99

Italeri

7521	M4A3 76mm	£9.99
6167	Rail Tracks x2	£9.99
MS12004	Fire Department Hummer	£22.50

Meng Models

TS-001	Merkava Mk3D Early	£48.95

AFV Club

AF35185	Valentine II Desert	£39.99
AF35198	LVT Buffalo Late	£39.99
AF35S25	Tiger I in transport mode	£34.99
AF35S52	Churchill MkVI w/75mm Gun	£42.99

Bronco Models

BM35068	M24 Chaffee British	£36.99
NB5026	LCS-4 USS Coronado	£33.50
BM35067	8.8cm L/71 Flak 41 A/A Gun	£33.99
BM35109	Su-152 Late	£TBA
BM35036	Hungarian 40/43M Zrinyi II	£47.50
BM35111	British Bofors	£29.99
BM35096SP	Corrected Chaffee Turret	£1.50
BM35135	17/25 Pdr Gun Crew (Desert)	£12.95
AB3556	Canvas Cover for No 27 Limber	£2.99
AB3557	Hungarian fuel & jerry cans	£10.00

Mini Art

UMA35107	Type 170V Cabrio staff Car	£26.99
UMA35134	Gaz MM 1943 Cargo	£26.99
UMA35081	Soviet Artillery Crew	£16.99

IBG Models

IB35012	Bussing Nag 4500S Cargo	£39.99
IB35013	Bussing Nag 4500A Late Cargo	£39.99
IB35007	Einheitdiesel Mit Field Kitchen	£39.99

Hobby Boss Models

HBB82459	GMC Bofors 40mm Gun	£22.99
HBB82467	Dong Meng Shi	£21.99
HBB82475	CV-90-40c	£25.99
HBB82483	ZBD-05 IFV	£27.99
HBB82489	EBR-10	£25.99
HBB82477	Toldi I 38M	£23.99
HBB82492	Bergepanther Flak	£36.99
HBB82491	Saurer Scout Car	£25.99
HBB82441	IDF Merkava IIID	£36.99

Trumpeter Models

TP01505	Canadian Grizzly 6x6 APC	£23.99
TP01512	M-1129 Stryker mortar carrier	£29.99
TP01530	BMP-3E	£29.99
TP01554	T-62 BDD 1984	£34.99
TP01599	JGSDF Type 87 AW	£29.99
TP05541	Soviet IT-1 Missile Tank	£29.99
TP05568	Su-152 early	£29.99
TP05569	JGSDF Type 96 WAPC B	£26.99

NEW
Panzerwreck Book No 13
Italy No 2............£17.00

13 PANZERWRECKS

Prices correct at time of going to print

POSTAGE RATES
Etch/large letter size = £1.50
Small Packet = £3.50
Parcel = £5.00

RETAIL SHOP AT:
151 Sackville Road, Hove, East Sussex BN33HD
E-Mail: tam.mag@lsamodels.co.uk
Web: www.lsamodels.co.uk
Tel: 0044 (0)1273 705420

1/87 HO AFV accessories
HLR87141 BMP-1/2 tracks
1/48 AFV accessories
HLX48323 T17E1 Staghound Mk.I (Bronco)
HLX48324 JS-2 (Tamiya)
HLX48325 Sd.Kfz.10 Demag D7 (Blue Cat)
HLX48326 JS-2 engine grills (Tamiya)
1/35 AFV accessories
HLU35054 T17E1 Staghound Mk.I (Bronco)
HLU35055 Gaz-MM (Miniart)
HLU35056 T17E1 Staghound Mk.I w.60LB Rocket Launch (Bronco)

Hauler WWW.HAULER.CZ

BINDERS

Keep your **Model Military International** collection safe in a high quality binder. Each binder holds 12 issues.

Just £8.50 + p&p

(UK - £2.45, Europe - £4.45, Worldwide - £6.45)

Available direct from our offices on
+44 (0)1525 222573
or online at:
www.modelmilitary.com

Model MILITARY
Model MILITARY

2012 #1 Catalog Avaliable NOW!
Just $8.00

Prices that will Blow You Away!

COOL STUFF!
NEW 1/35 Friul! BISON I/II Cast Metal Working Track Links $43.50

Panzer Wrecks #13 Italy #2 $29.75

1/35 Meng Model Merkava IIID $52.50

ATL-122
1/35 Verlinden Damaged Panther G Turret $24.75

BEST PRICES!
1/72 Aber Pz IV A/B/C/D KwK 37 L/24
$6.25

ROLL MODELS INC.

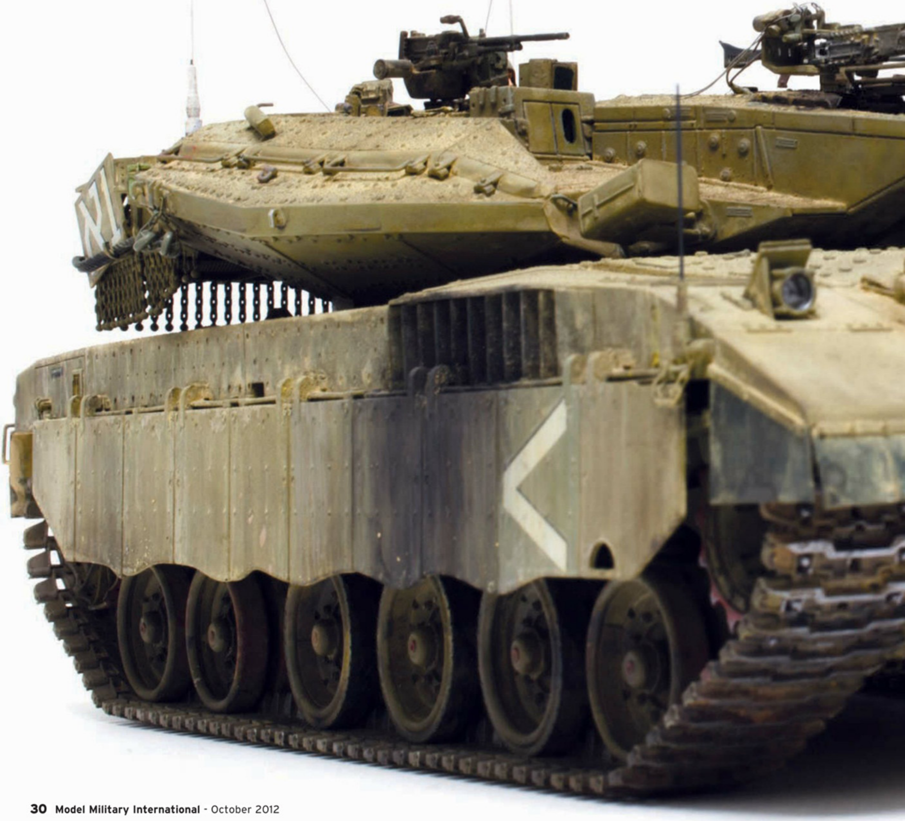
www.rollmodels.com
orders@rollmodels.com
Phone 763.545.0399
Fax 763.545.0899
P.O. Box 27066
Golden Valley, MN
55427-0066 USA

MENG
ISRAEL MAIN BATTLE TANK
MERKAVA Mk.3D EARLY
1/35

MENG DYNASTY

Anthony Sheedy continues his own personal Israeli tank-fest with Meng Model's brand new 1:35 scale Merkava 3 Dor Dalet. Is he impressed? Read on…

This must be one of the best box arts released in years. The end result is well worth the investment.



It really doesn't get any better than this. Honestly. It can't.

Sure, the excellent box art depicting the Merkava Siman 3 with its 4th Generation Armour package bolted onto the turret creates a suitably menacing profile to attract and intrigue any armour modeller, but like judging a book by its cover, it is not until you immerse yourself into it that you truly appreciate all the aspects that go into producing something this great.

Everything about the Meng Merkava 3D release radiates quality. The box art is so good that it should be released as a separate poster. Even the cardboard box feels as high quality as one from a $200 Sheridan dressing gown. The instruction booklet is what manufacturers should strive for - a clear and logical build sequence, diagrams that are easy to interpret, printed in black & white with paint and decal options in colour. It all feels very expensive, and the sprues haven't even been examined yet.

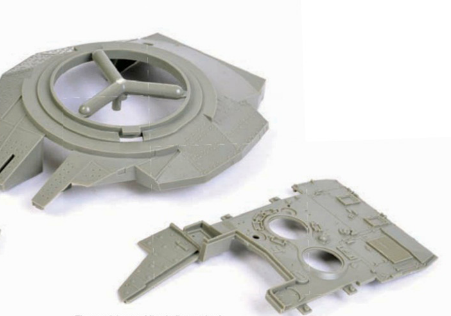
Meng has made a very astute decision to produce the 3D as it is probably the most popular and interesting Merkava variant, offering the modeller the same versatility and inspiration that is provided by a WWII-era Panther or Sherman. Teaming up with Michael Mass of Desert Eagle Publishing was a stroke of genius, and one can really see how he has positively influenced this kit by actively contributing towards achieving a stellar level of detail and accuracy.

A BRIEF HISTORY

The Merkava series of Israeli main battle tanks is a "home grown" main battle tank built by Israel for Israel. It first saw service in Lebanon in the early 1980s. It has evolved since then from the Merkava 1 through to the monstrous Merkava 4, each improvement based on real world combat experience against an adaptable and experienced enemy. The Merkava's constant evolution not only results in mechanical, armour and firepower improvements but more importantly; crew survivability.

Meng's Merkava 3 Dor Dalet (Merkava 3 Baz with 4th Generation armour package added to the turret sides) is the earlier version used prior to fitment of the Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) additions, such as belly armour, towing horns, new commanders hatch with armoured glass vision blocks to allow 360 field of vision, mesh grills over headlights and sights and all cooling and air vents covered over to prevent flammable liquids being pored into the engine bay. It is not uncommon to see both versions of the 3D mixed into the same Companies, and I think the easiest way to identify between the two is by the unprotected engine deck screens on the earlier version. The 3D was used during the 2006 conflict in Lebanon, and as such there is plenty of inspiration for the modeller, both in print and online. The Merkava Siman 3D by Desert Eagle Publishing is the print reference of ▶

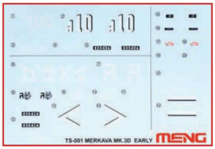
Moulded without an engine cover hints that other Merkava 3 veriants are in the pipeline.



The exquisite moulding is first noticed on the turret halves. It is almost a shame to add non-slip to it.

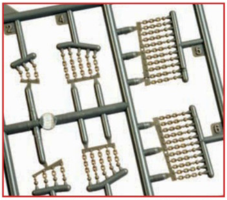
Individual link tracks only require minimal clean up of knock out pins. I did this once assembled so that I only had to remove the visible ones between the wheels.

Clear parts have excellent detail, more of which comes out once painted.



Decals are excellent, thin with minimal edging and hold up well to decal softeners.

No IDF armour is complete without the turret mounted Mag 58, done here almost to perfection by Meng.



The moulded ball & chain armour, while delicate, is still fairly robust. That being said, I would use a fresh knife blade before cutting the sections from the sprue.

choice though.

About the only thing Meng can be criticised for is that with their first modern armour release, they have embarrassed most of the other manufactures previous efforts. Meng has proven proved that not only can they mix it with the established competition, bu that they can exceed most with the quality of their moulding and part fit being on par with the industry benchmark; a la Tamiya.

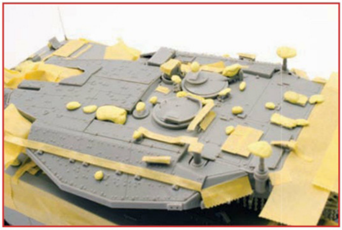
As far as IDF subjects go, the only option in town used to be to shell out for the Legend Productions conversion set to fit onto the very dated Academy hull. In fact with the release of the 3D plus others in the very near future (I'm going to guess an IDF Namer APC will be next) Academy and Legend Productions are probably the only ones not applauding the newcomer's unlikely achievement. Having just converted Academy's Merkava 3 into a 3D using the Legends Productions conversion, I feel qualified to say that the Meng 3D is not only much faster and easier to build, but also far more accurate and detailed. In all fairness, the Academy Merkava 3 is quite old now, but there's no excuse to justify the amount of work required to massage the Legends bits onto the donor kit. Another plus for the Meng kit is that you'll no longer require the four hours spent tediously assembling the ball and chain armour from the Legend conversion. It can be achieved within 15 minutes thanks to Meng's clever use of current moulding technology to produce ball and chain armour in plastic. This alone will guarantee more completed IDF armour on shelves due to the fact that most projects stall once it comes to assembling the ball and chain armour.

THE BUILD

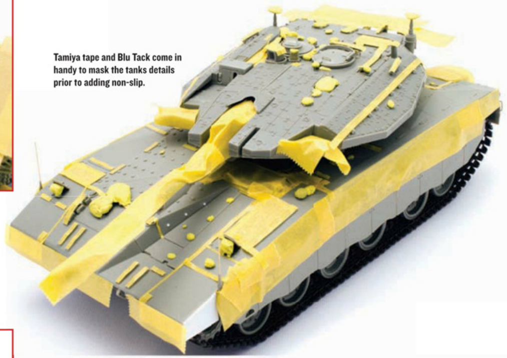
Building Meng's Merkava 3D starts with the lower hull including the suspension and wheels. The wheels are another highlight, with the modeller being able to choose from four options: all steel wheels, rubber tyred, with foam lining installed to stop mud build up and lastly without the foam lining. I chose a mix of all four as I wanted to see how they went together and looked once on. I wasn't disappointed, although I found that painting the foam insert in the flesh colour (as seen on the real thing) a bit of a thankless task as the wheel and foam liner all blended into one colour once I started weathering.

One glaring omission from the model is the distinctive non-slip texture found on the turret and hull top of the Merkava MBT. I decided to stray from the instructions and assemble the hull and turret so as to enable the addition of non-slip before the various details were glued on and it became harder to mask the areas where there's no non-slip. I found much of the engine deck was an extremely tight fit and each part needed to be separately sanded and test fitted before finally gluing it into place. The turret also suffered this to a smaller degree; however the way the various armour packages go together and assemble into a turret before your eyes is an absolute joy to behold. After carefully masking the kit, I sprayed two coats of Games Workshop Texture paint. This is close enough for 1:35 scale, but I don't feel it truly captures the jagged and random finish of IDF non-slip.

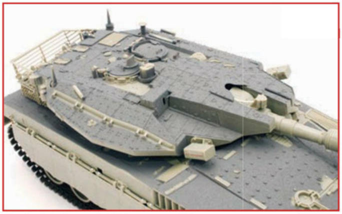
Although the kit is excellent straight from the box, I couldn't help but make a few small additions. The most obvious to me is the missing canvas covers and liners for the stowage bins on the rear of the hull. I used lead foil to reproduce these and detailed them with Tamiya tape straps. The spares box donated the missing chains that were added to the side skirts, while the front mud flaps were replaced with scale thickness plastic card cut to size and detailed with bolt heads punched from the same 10 thou plastic card as that used for the mud flaps. On the underside of sprue B is a series of numbers. Although not called out during the build, my guess is that these are to be used to make your own chassis numbers. I cut the relevant numbers off the sprue before gluing them onto a ▶



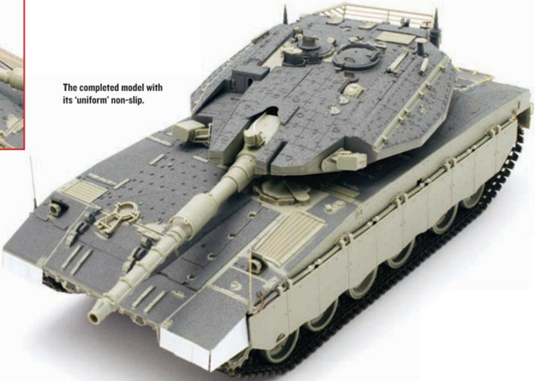
Although it looks like a lot of masking, the entire job only took about 20 minutes.



Tamiya tape and Blu Tack come in handy to mask the tanks details prior to adding non-slip.



Prior to priming I scraped off high wear areas of the vehicle to give the non-slip a more random appearance.



The completed model with its 'uniform' non-slip.

> "Meng has made a very astute decision to produce the 3D as it is probably the most popular and interesting Merkava variant, offering the modeller the same versatility and inspiration that is provided by a WWII-era Panther or Sherman..."

SCALE
1:35
ICM

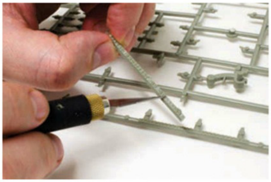
MODEL KIT No 35535

Packard Twelve (Model 1936)

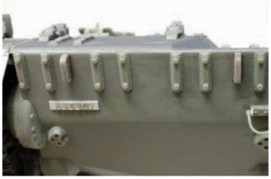
WWII Soviet Leader's Car with Passengers

- This particular kit is the very first attempt by ICM to release a Packard Twelve (Model 1936) plastic kit in 1:35 scale into the market
- Highly detailed chassis, engine and interior
- Five figures of Stalin and other WWII Soviet leaders are included

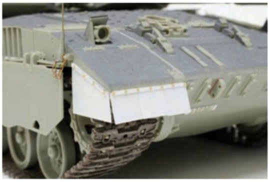
www.icm.com.ua



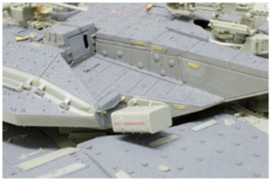
The numbers on the underside of the B sprue allow for the modeller to make their own chassis numbers. The chassis number for the Merkava 3 starts with ‘835XXX”, hence you get multiples of these digits.



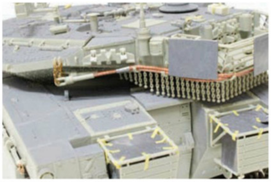
The numbers from the B sprue glued to a strip of plasticard, before positioning on the hull. How good are the welds around the mine roller attachments? Meng has really gone to a great deal of detail.



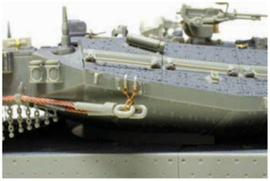
Replacing the mud flaps is something I do on all my Merkavas, as the kit ones are too uniform and thick. The chain is the much need addition to the kits sides skirts.



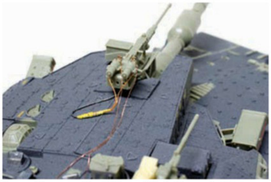
The rectangular armour data codes were added from a left over Vogaer Merkava IV etch set. Lead wire was used to add the wiring to the smoke grenade launchers.



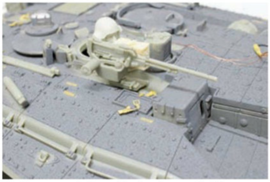
Minor additions such as those seen here are quick and easy, yet add a lot to the finished model.



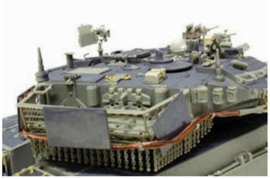
The tow cables were secured by chain, rather than the inaccurate kit supplied wire.



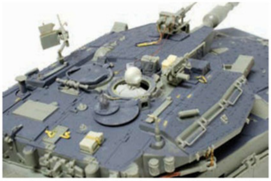
Copper wire was used to add the conduits for the remote firing solenoids, as well as for the manual cocking and trigger mechanisms.



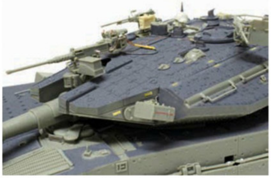
Like the armour code plaques, the straps to secure the MG ammo liners are from a leftover Voyager photo-etched set.



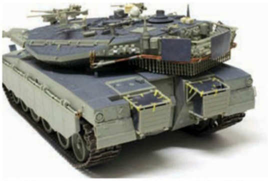
The rear view showing a very busy turret, a feature common to IDF armour.



Even with the large IDF helmet, the Commander figure is dwarfed by the huge turret.



The red lines on the side of the smoke grenade launchers is 10 thou Slaters Rod used to simulate the missing weld seams. Conveniently, this weld hides a join between the part halves.



The kit tow rope was exchanged for a left over length from the Karaya T-55 set.

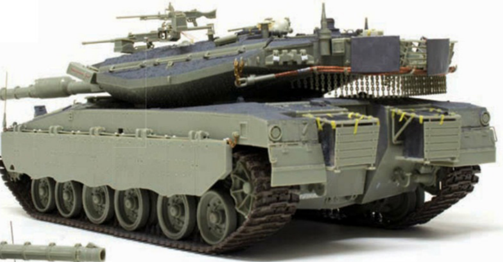
section of plastic strip. Once dry, I glued the customised chassis numbers to the front and rear of the hull, paying careful attention to location.

Minor details were added to the turret mounted machine guns. The .50 cal had the cocking handle and manual trigger wires added, along with the remote wiring from inside the turret to the trigger solenoids mounted on the back of the .50 cal. Conduit was also added to the grenade launchers, and the main gun mounted laser detector. Replacing the kit tow cables was a no brainer. Some left over Karaya tow cable were donated to add a bit more realism over the odd looking rope that is supplied in the kit. I also discarded the wire that Meng suggests the modeller uses to tie the towropes to the turret, in favour of chain to secure them, just like on the actual Merkava 3D.

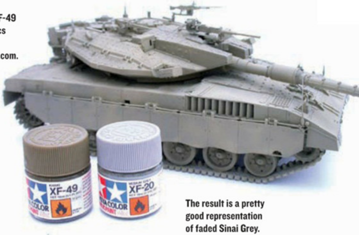
PAINTING AND WEATHERING

A mix of Tamiya XF-49 and XF-20 acrylic was sprayed over the primed model to give a pretty good representation of the faded Sinai Grey seen on hard working IDF armour. I choose a lighter base coat so that I didn't end up with a too dark a model after the weathering was completed. Desert Eagle Publishing explains that after an operation or exercise, the Merkava MBTs are regularly washed down with high-pressure steam cleaners and even diesel fuel in an attempt to remove even the most stubborn stains. Once this cleaning process was completed, the markings and chassis number were touched up or repainted. Close examination of photos of IDF armour in the field shows that the different shades of paint are still visible under the dust. To simulate this interesting practice, I painted out the rear bins and second front side skirt with Vallejo Green Grey before applying the decals.

As you have probably guessed, I'm pretty chuffed with the Meng Merkava 3D. As soon as I received an email from Hobby Easy saying my pre-order had finally shipped, I cleared the desk and started scouring any and all Merkava references looking for inspiration. The only problem here is that there is too much inspiration. After



I removed the front towing bollards from the kit part to match the photographic reference of the real I Alfa.



I chose to use a mix of XF-49 and XF-20 Tamiya arcylics after reading about IDF colours on idf-modelling.com.

The result is a pretty good representation of faded Sinai Grey.

hunting the net and all my IDF references, I eventually whittled my short list down to one vehicle; 1 Alfa (Alef in Hebrew) 4th Company 2 Eezuz Battalion of the "Bnei-Oor" Brigade. In order to complete this vehicle I had to use three different Bison decal sets: both of the Merkava 4 sheets as well as the Merkava 3 sheet. Isradecal is another excellent source for markings, however I couldn't source them in time due to the extremely tight deadline the Editor placed on this project!

I did manage to use some of the kit decals - those for the grenade launchers, plus the rear and side bins. The decals are up to the high standard of the rest of the kit, being very thin and going down extremely well with little excess film around the printing. However, decal 15 for the rear bin is oversized and needs to be replaced with either the Bison or Isradecal equivalent.

The kit comes with decals to produce one of two vehicles, the first option is "Gimel" (third letter in the Hebrew alphabet) 2nd Company, 2nd Battalion of the Barak (Lightning) Brigade as it appeared during the aforementioned conflict in Lebanon. Option 2 depicts "10 Gimmel" of the same Company and Brigade except during "Operation Cast Lead" 2009. I have a slight issue with this option as I cannot find an early version Merkava 3D with these markings, only an LIC later version. I am not prepared to say Meng has made an error ▶

Oil stains on the turret are a common sight on IDF tanks.

The layers of dust and crud really show up in the non-slip.

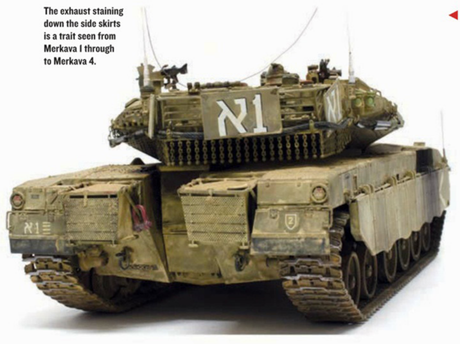
The dust on the machine guns was added to try and match the dirty grimy weapons seen on Merkava MBT's.

Different shades of pastel chalk add a bit of visual interest to the mono colour of the IDF armour.

Merkavas on active service can get quite a build up of fuel and oil staining.

The exposed engine grille is the visual key I use to differentiate early from late 3Ds.

The repainting of the vehicles chevron is illustrated well in this shot.



The exhaust staining down the side skirts is a trait seen from Merkava I through to Merkava 4.

with this marking choice, only that I cant find any reference of it, whereas several photos of the 2006 marking option can be found online and in print.

Once the clear coat had dried I could start on the fun stuff… weathering. I started with a mix of light grey and earth brown washes before adding many layers of various shades of browns to get the fading and dusty look happening. Streaks were added to the vertical surfaces using the same oil paints to simulate the exhaust, fuel and oil staining commonly seen on active service Merkavas. Once happy with the washes, thin layers of earthy coloured pastel chalk were built up and blended in wet using water. This allowed the pastel to run into the crevices and build up with each layer, like on the real vehicle. To this I then added more washes to get depth and shadows, before rubbing off high wear areas around the hatches and horizontal walking surfaces with a rubber tipped sculpting brush.

I highlighted these areas by dry brushing with Primer Red Vallejo and Bolt Gun Metal by Games Workshop before adding chipping using Vallejo Black Brown. Highlights were picked out using the same Green Grey as used to simulate the painted out markings prior to decaling. Oil and fuel stains were added around fillers and turret mounted machine guns. References show these were quite liberally oiled and the dust soaked up the excess oil enabling the modeller to add cool looking oil stains to the turret. A bonus when trying to add visual interest to a mono coloured subject.

Finally, aerials were made from brass rod and detailed with cable ties and securing rope before adding a figure from Blast's modern IDF tank crew set with a replacement Hornet head from there IDF armour crewman set.

CONCLUSION

Out of the box, the Meng Merkava 3D builds up to an excellent representation of the real vehicle, but with some minor detailing can be even better. The missing side skirt chains, rear bin liners and covers are a must, and now that Blast Models have released their detail set with covered in turret basket, rear bins and much needed grenade cage for the turret a great kit can be turned into spectacular.

The Meng Dynasty has truly begun. Long may it reign. ■

Modelspec

Meng Merkava 3D **Kit No. TS-001**

Tools and Accessories used

Games Workshop texture paint
Tamiya Grey Primer Fine
Tamiya Arcylic Paints
Vallejo Acrylic Paints
Windsor and Newtons Oil Paint
Rembrandt Pastel Chalk

References

Merkava Siman 3D by Desert Eagle Publishing
Merkava; A History of Israel's Main Battle Tank by Tankograd Publishing
IDF Armoured Vehicles by Tankograd Publishing
Merkava 3 by Museum Ordinance
Online:
www.idf-modelling.com
www.supervideo.com/MXCD-ROMOSa.htm
www.liveleak.com

✓ High level of detail and accuracy.
✗ Absence of non-slip.

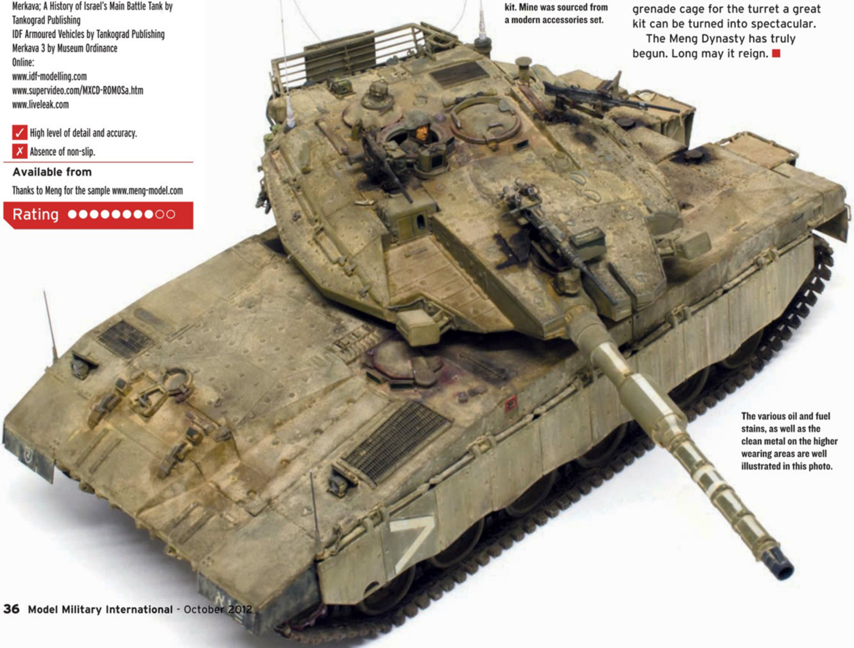
Available from

Thanks to Meng for the sample www.meng-model.com

Rating ●●●●●●●●○○

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very grateful to Meng for the review sample, and the guys at idf-modelling.com for the information and inspiration. Thanks also to Sam Dwyer, who took the terrific photos of the model. Lastly a big thank you to Casey and Violet, you girls are amazing.



The 3D looks as tough from behind as it does form the front. The red tow shackle is a common feature on the Merkava 3D. Sadly this is a feature not provided in the kit. Mine was sourced from a modern accessories set.

The various oil and fuel stains, as well as the clean metal on the higher wearing areas are well illustrated in this photo.

MK MODELS 1/35 RESIN KITS

PLUS:
REAL
MODEL,
RB MODELS,
VOYAGER,
ET MODELS,
GRIFFON
AND LOADS
MORE
ARMOUR
GOODIES

IVECO
CLV
„PANTHER“
RESIN KIT

AND OUR
USUAL
HUGE
SELECTION
OF NAVAL
AND
AIRCRAFT
SUBJECTS

NOW AVAILABLE FROM
WHITE ENSIGN MODELS, Unit 5, Cobnash Ind. Est., Leominster, HR6 9RW, U.K.
Tel: 01568 709149 E-mail: sales@whiteensignmodels.com
www.whiteensignmodels.com

Accurate Armour
IDF DIAMOND-T
& DYSON 50 Ton
TANK TRANSPORTER

MODEL KITS

www.accurate-armour.com

Halifax Modellers World

29 Union Street, Halifax, HX1 1PR

DRAGON 1/35 SCALE

DN6627	M7 Priest Early version	£49.99
DN6543	Panzer III Ausf J	£49.99
DN6728	Ardelt 8.8cm Waffentrager	£45.00
DN6612	Stug IV Late	£45.00
DN6739	Sdkfz 10/4 w/flak 30	£45.00

HOBBYBOSS 1/35 SCALE

HBB82441	Merkava IIID	£36.99
HBB82477	Hungarian Toldi	£23.99
HBB82489	French EBR-10	£25.99
HBB82491	Sdkfz 254 Scout car	£25.99
HBB82492	Bergpanther D Flak	£36.99

BRONCO 1/35 SCALE

CB35067	88mm Flak 41 w/crew	£39.99
CB35068	British Chaffee	£39.99
CB35100	'Buffalo' 6x6 MPCV	£49.99
CB35033	Hungarian Zrinyi	TBA
CB35111	British Bofors AA Gun	TBA

ACADEMY 1/35 SCALE

AC13230	Hetzer Late version	£19.99

TRUMPETER 1/35 SCALE

TM01505	Canadian Grizzly Late	£22.99
TM01554	T-62BDD Mod 1984	£32.99
TM05568	Soviet SU-152	£29.99
TM01530	BMP-3E IFV	£29.99
TM01584	Sdkfz 8 Gepanzerte 12T	£39.99

AFV CLUB 1/35 SCALE

AF35185	Valentine Mk.II	£38.99
AF35042	M42A1 Duster	£42.99
AF35232	Sdkfz 232 Armoured car	£39.99

MENG MODELS 1/35 SCALE

MGTS001	Merkava IIID	£45.00

TAMIYA 1/35 SCALE

TA35323	M51 Super Sherman	£44.99
TA35324	T-55 Enigma	£49.99

MASTERBOX 1/35 SCALE

MB35107	Head for the Huey	£10.99
MB3598	LRDG in N.Africa	£8.99

KINETIC 1/35 SCALE

KIN61006	M109A2 SPG	£29.99

ICM 1/35 SCALE

ICM35467	Henschel 33 Radio Truck	£25.99

MINI-ART 1/35 SCALE

MIN35095	Mercedes Benz 170V	£26.99
MIN35133	GAZ AAA 1943 Truck	£27.99
MIN35135	U.S Tank Crew combat	£8.99
MIN35052	Soviet YA-12 Tractor	£29.99

TASCA 1/35 SCALE

TAS35026	M32B1 Recovery Sherman	£49.99

ARMOURFAST 1/72 SCALE

ARM89001	Le FH18 105mm w/crew	£7.50

VICTRIX 28mm

VXA001	Athenian Hoplites 450-300BC	£22.95
VXA002	Spartan Hoplites 450-300BC	£22.95
VXA003	Theban Hoplites 450-300BC	£22.95

DRAGON 1/72 SCALE

DN7446	Sdkfz 260 Armoured car	£15.99
DN7494	Panther D Early	£19.99
DN7439	L.R.D.G Truck	£18.99
DN7437	Neubaufahrzueg Nr.2	£18.99

PLASTIC SOLDIER 1/72 SCALE

WW2G2001	Russian 45mm x 3	£12.50
WW2V2002	German Pz IV x 3	£12.50

ZVEZDA 1/72 SCALE

Z8080	French Napoleonic HQ	£10.99
Z8077	Soviet Infantry WWII	£6.99

RODEN 1/72 SCALE

URO712	Panzerwerfer 42	£12.99
URO725	Opel Blizbus	£12.99

ITALERI 1/72 SCALE

IT7521	M4A3 Sherman 76mm(2 Models)	£9.50

WATERLOO 1815 1/72 SCALE

WLAP015	British Paras w/75mm Hwtzr	£7.50

HOBBYBOSS 1/72 SCALE

HBB82912	Russian Armoured Train	£19.99

REVELL 1/72 SCALE

RV3186	Sdkfz 7 half-track	£8.99

BISON DECALS NOW IN STOCK! RING FOR DETAILS

Tel/Fax 01422 349157

VISA MasterCard SWITCH

Shop Hours:Mon,Tues,Thur 10.30-17.30, Wed closed,
Fri 10.30-17.00, Sat 9.30-17.00, Sun 10.30-16.30

POST & PACKING UK £3.00

www.halifaxmodellersworld.co.uk

Join the Electronic Revolution

A brand new way to enjoy Model Military International

Enjoy Model Military International
on your iPhone, iPad, Android phone or tablet PC.

Or visit **PocketMags.com** to purchase single issues
and subscriptions to read on your computer (PC or Mac).

Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL
DIGITAL BUCKET
GERONIMO!
MID-SIZE MARDER
INSIDE:
Incoming

Go Digital!

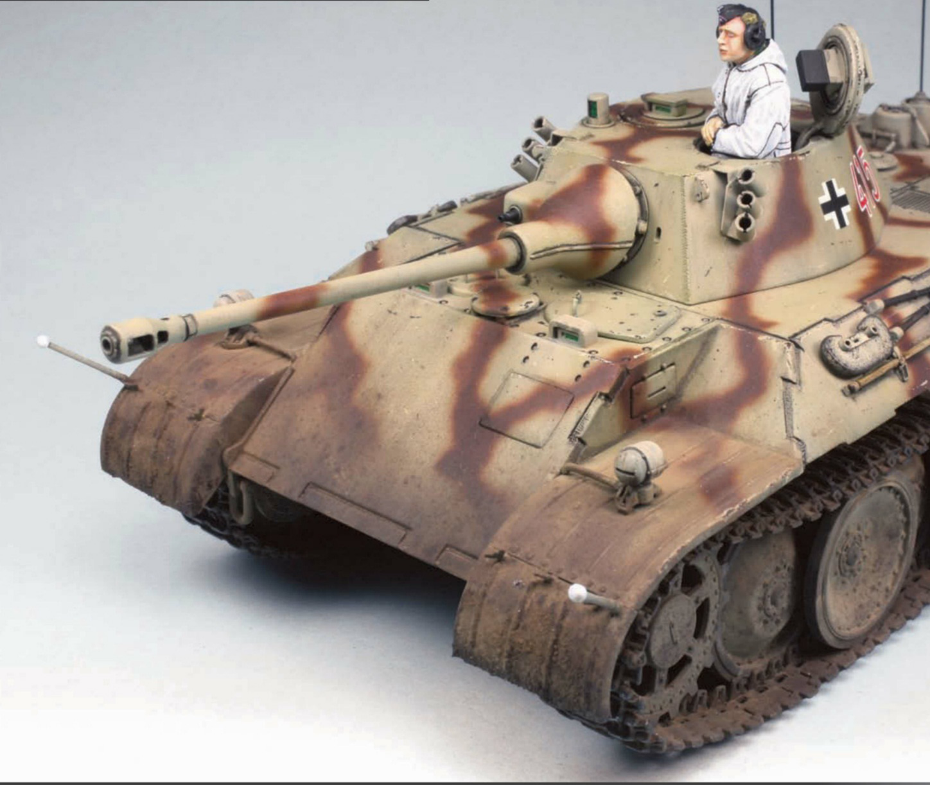
pocketmags.com

Available on the iPhone
App Store

Google play

For more information visit **www.adhpublishing.com**

ADH
PUBLISHING



PANTHER C

Andy King finds that the 1:35 scale HobbyBoss VK1602 Leopard is the perfect remedy for a dose of Advanced Modeller's Syndrome.

Looking very much like a mini-Panther, the VK1602 was proposed as a light tracked reconnaissance tank and two designs were submitted by M.A.N in 1941 for 18 and 26 ton vehicles. The lighter version was dropped in favour of the heavier model after Hitler was shown the plans. Production was scheduled for the early part of 1943, building up to the rate of 20 vehicles per month by October of the same year.

However after discussions with Albert Speer it was pointed out the design and performance of the Leopard would be very similar to the Panther (which M.A.N had been working on at the same time) and that the 5cm gun for the Leopard would be insufficient for a tank of its size. Eventually in January 1943 Hitler ordered the project to be cancelled, as he didn't believe the armour or armament would be enough to meet future needs.

THE MODEL

Sometimes you get to a stage in model making when having to research a particular subject fills you with dread or you get bogged down in an endless quest for that extra bit of detail and end up abandoning a model. This happened to me after a fairly in-depth build and I ended up doing no modelling at all for months, instead spending time on the pc playing games.

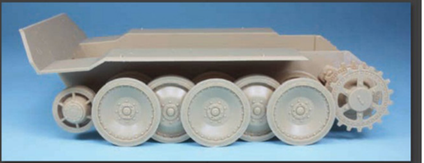
Usually hailed as the death knell of the hobby, it was sort of ironic that a computer game eventually gave me itchy fingers and that feeling of wanting to build something again. The game in question is World of Tanks, an online multi-map, multi-player thing and one of the tanks sitting in my garage was the VK1602 Leopard. Roaming around the virtual battlefield dodging bigger, heavier and nastier tanks in this rather nippy vehicle (although eventually getting blown to bits) got the mind wandering and after

The road wheels assembled after an evening's work.

By gluing the far end of the torsion bar you end up with working suspension.

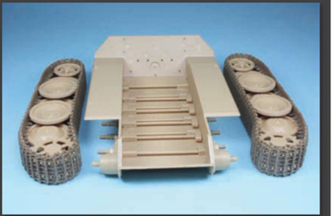
The detail on the road wheels is very well done.

> **"Building the Leopard has brought a bit of fun back to my modelling and it has definitely helped break the AMS..."**



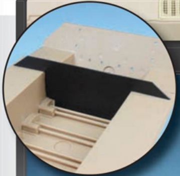
The alternative layout for the road wheels and two types of rear idler.

The rear engine deck with grab handle added.

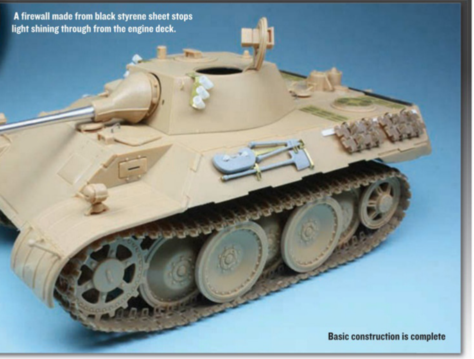


I find gluing the tracks to the wheels to a sub-assembly helps painting later on.

UB



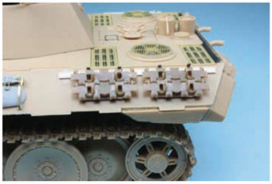
A firewall made from black styrene sheet stops light shining through from the engine deck.



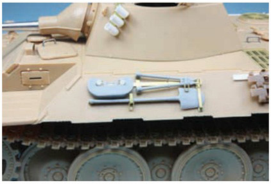
Basic construction is complete

finding out about the HobbyBoss kit, I thought it would be a perfect antidote to the dreaded 'Advanced Modeller's Syndrome' (AMS) in that little or no research was required, it would be fairly quick to assemble plus you could exercise a lot of artistic freedom with the final paint scheme.

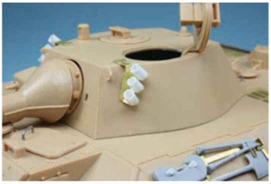
So after a phone call to Halifax Modellers World, the kit arrives a day later. Usually, the kit is looked at, prodded and fondled then put into the stash for a few years. ▶



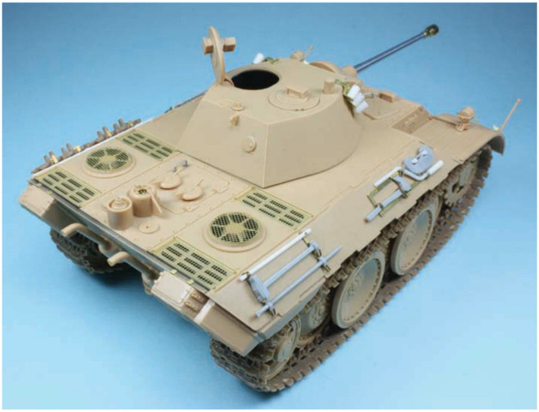
Spare tracks were added to the rear of the upper hull in the style of a Panther.



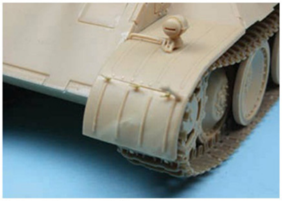
Tools were pilfered from the spares box.



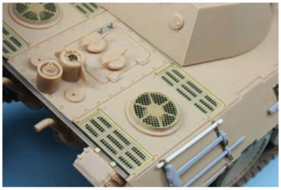
The awful kit smoke dischargers were replaced with plastic tube.



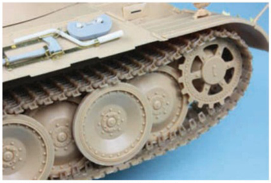
View from the top rear.



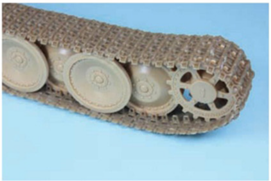
The front fender was carefully damaged.



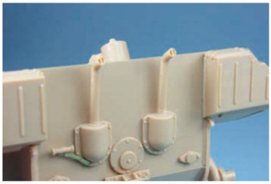
Combination of the kit detail and parts from the spares box came up well.



The kit's individual link tracks look really good.



The fit of the tracks is excellent too, especially around the drive sprocket.



The exhaust pipes drilled out and stretched sprue glued across the opening.

◀ This time it was different though. Upon opening the box I could feel the urge to build so the bags were opened and I just launched straight into it. Well, I did a little bit of research but not much... honest.

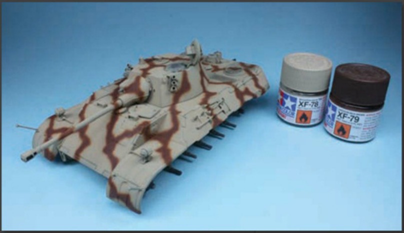
CONSTRUCTION

Starting with the lower hull, you have a choice with the arrangement of the torsion bar suspension. Why I don't know because they all look the same, but there you are. With just a drop of glue on the ends you can have a working suspension too, which is great for dioramas. The road wheels, idlers and drive sprockets were cleaned up and glued together at this point and the whole lot took around two hours in total. It has taken me that long just to clean up the wheels on other projects. You also have a choice regarding the layout of the wheels too depending on which type of rear idler you want to fit, either a large or small diameter one.

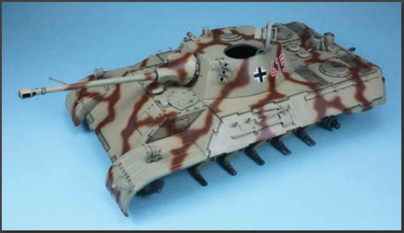
The tracks are made up of individual links and require a small amount of clean up. Fortunately the mould pin mark on the inner face is slightly raised and will disappear using the edge of a blade. The guide horns are separate items too, which is a nice touch as the detail on them would be lost if they were moulded directly on the track link. The only down side is the time it took to clean up and fix the guide horns, by far the longest part of the build. Once dry the tracks were fitted and glued around the wheels (which were left loose on the axles) and left to set. This way you can remove the whole lot to make painting easier.

The rear hull plate was fitted and the exhausts drilled out at the ends to improve their look. A fine piece of stretched sprue was then glued across the opening.

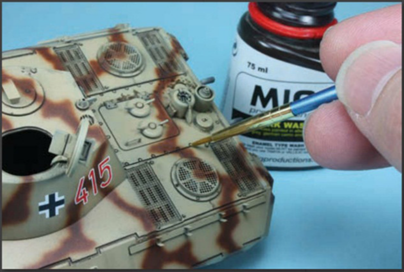
The upper hull was next. Before I glued it to the lower hull I added a bulkhead inside then sprayed the interior black, and the turret while I was at it, to stop any light shining through from the engine grills. The actual fit of the two hull parts is excellent with minimal clean up too. I made grab handles from 15 amp fuse wire for the front hatches, also adding one to the engine hatch and after putting the photo-etched mesh for the grills on, fixing the front fenders and other hull bits and pieces. In the interests of a stress-free build, I ▶

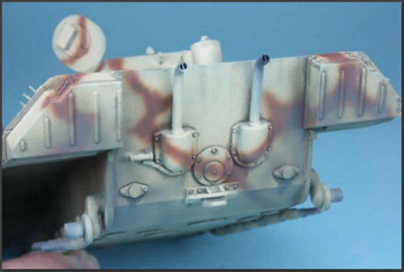


Tamiya XF-78 and XF-79 were used for the base coat and camouflage scheme.

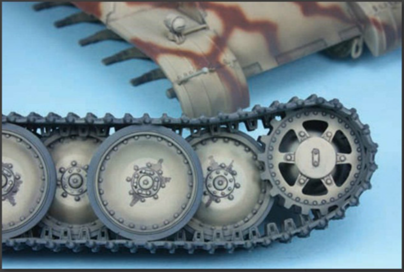


The model after a couple of coats of Tamiya X-22 Clear Varnish and the decals applied. Mig Products Dark Wash has been applied to the recesses.

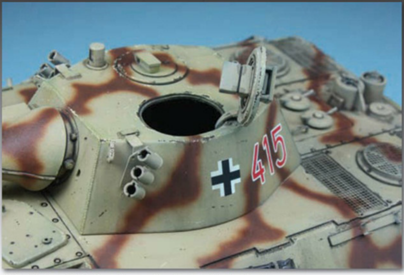




Heavier applications of the dark wash are made to the engine deck and rear plate.



The tracks, wheels and lower surfaces after the earth/ black mixture has been lightly sprayed.



Paint chipping with Vallejo paint was achieved using a fine brush and sponge.

◀ really should have stopped there and got on with the turret but I felt something was missing from the hull sides so I raided the spares box and found various items of on-vehicle equipment, loosely basing the layout on a Panther. A track hanger was made from styrene strip and the clamps were actually from the remnants of etch sheet. That's why you never throw stuff away!

Onto the turret, and this built up fairly quickly as the interior detail is limited to a gun breech. However I did improve a few things including the awful smoke dischargers, which I replaced with styrene tube. I also added an MG 42 in the gun mantlet and a very nice RB Model turned metal barrel. The mantlet received a textured finish using liquid cement and a small stiff brush and that was that for construction. Wow!

PAINTING

The model was given a rinse in washing up liquid and warm water to remove grease and dust. When thoroughly dry, it was primed with Tamiya XF-1 Black. For the base coat of German Dark Yellow and Red-Brown camouflage I used a couple of new Tamiya paints that I found in the local model shop, XF-78 Wooden Deck Tan and XF-79 Lino Deck Brown which are 'ship' colours, but I thought they looked promising.

After spraying the colours the model looked bright with a capital 'B' as the Wooden Deck Tan is very pale and the Lino Deck Brown a very reddish brown. Even so, I knew that the weathering process would tone things down a lot. Tamiya X-22 Gloss varnish was sprayed all over then the decals were applied, aided by a previous gloss coat of Johnson's Kleer.

WEATHERING

To start the process, MIG Productions' Dark Wash was run into all the recesses, more so for the engine deck. After a couple of coats of Mr Hobby Matt Varnish, a thin 2:1 mix of Tamiya Earth and Black was sprayed around the running gear, tracks and lower hull. Paint chipping and scratches using Vallejo Iraqi Sand and German Camo Black-Brown were added with a fine brush.

Using Sepia oil paint, I brushed some along the top edges of the turret and hull then using a flat brush moistened with white spirit I dragged the oil paint down to recreate rain streaks. While the flat brush and oils were out I put dots of various colours onto the model and worked them into the paint for some tonal variation.

The on-vehicle equipment was painted, weathered and chipped then the exhausts were rusted using various pastel chalks ranging from black to orange.

Onto the mud, and for this I used Mig pigments and AK Interactive Mud Effects in no particular order, just applying different shades here and there then picking up the AK stuff on a flat brush and, using an airbrush on a VERY low pressure setting, blowing it onto the model for added effect.

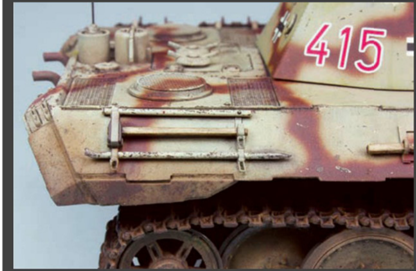
CONCLUSION

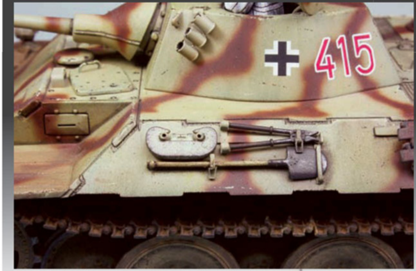
I have to be honest and say that I've never been a fan of the 'what-if' and 'Paper Panzer' genre, but building this Leopard has brought a bit of fun back to my modelling and it has definitely helped break the AMS. The kit itself is lovely and would make an ideal introduction to armour modelling for first-timers due to the good fit of parts, plus the individual track links offer a challenge without being off-putting.

Enjoy it? I did! ■

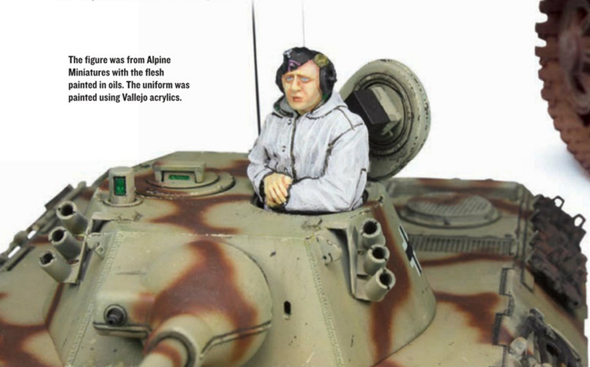
Acknowledgements

Many thanks yet again to Darren and Dave at Halifax Modellers World for supplying the kit so fast I swear they read my mind.

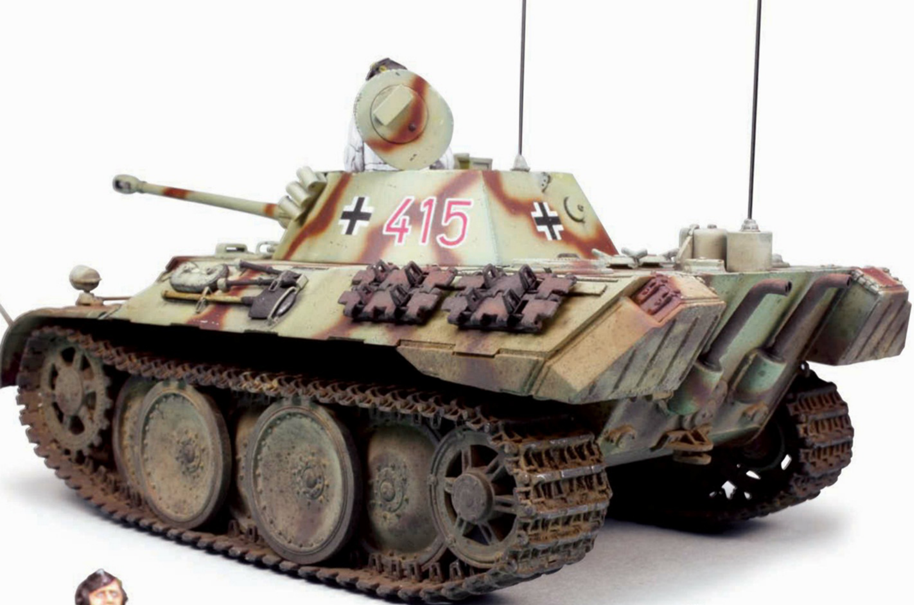


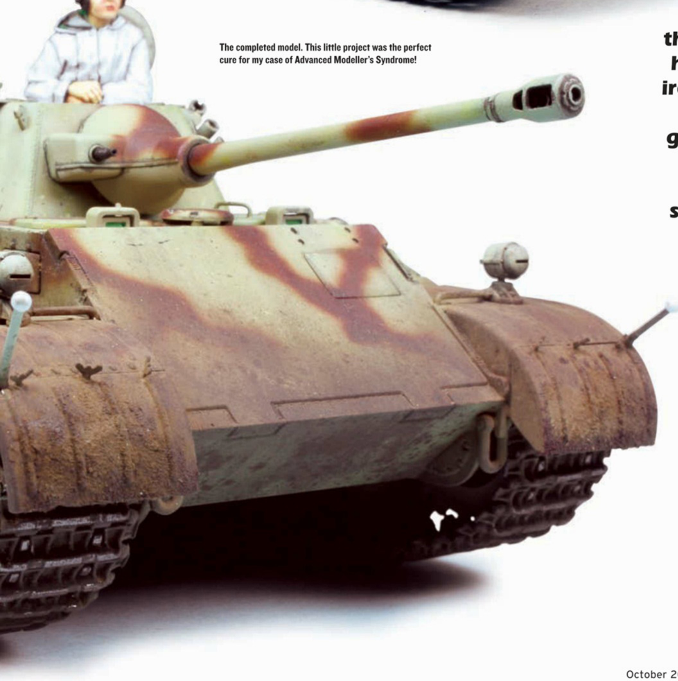


The on-vehicle equipment was painted, weathered and chipped



The figure was from Alpine Miniatures with the flesh painted in oils. The uniform was painted using Vallejo acrylics.





The completed model. This little project was the perfect cure for my case of Advanced Modeller's Syndrome!

> **"Usually hailed as the death knell of the hobby, it was sort of ironic that a computer game eventually gave me itchy fingers and that feeling of wanting to build something again..."**

Modelspec

HobbyBoss 1:35 VK1602 Leopard Kit No. 82460

Model Composition

Injection moulded tan coloured styrene. Etch metal sheet. Waterslide decals.

Materials and Paints Used

Mr Hobby Cement; Cyanoacrylate glue; Modelling knife; Styrene sheet; Vallejo and Tamiya paint; Mig pigments and washes; AK weathering products; Pastel chalk.

References

Panzertracts 20-2 'Paper Panzers' .Thomas Jents and Hilary Doyle. ISBN 0-9708407-7-2

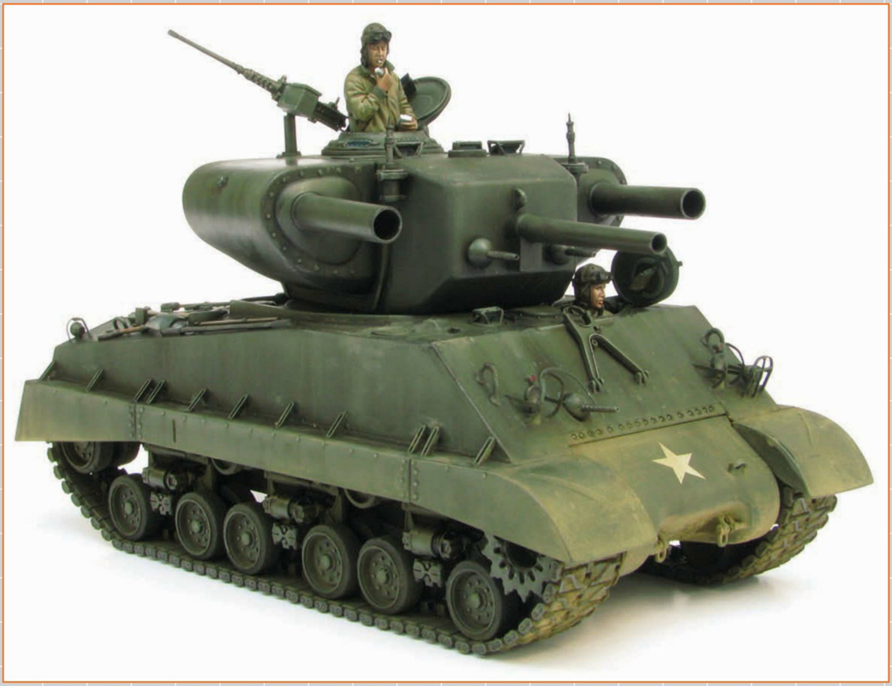
✓ Good fit of parts.

✗ Some mould pin marks under the fenders.

Available from

HobbyBoss kits are available online from Creative Models Limited www.creativemodels.co.uk

Rating ●●●●●●●●○○



SHERMAN DEVASTATOR

Kamil Feliks Sztarbala takes us step-by-step through his scratch built T31 Demolition Tank conversion.

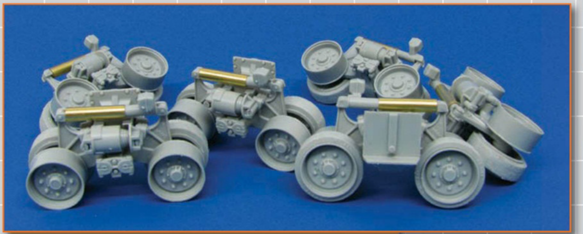
It is hard to believe, but this vehicle really existed. It was armed with 105mm howitzer and two 7.2 inch rocket launchers. As far as I know, the project was cancelled after some tests in Aberdeen in late 1945. However, there are rumours that it was later seen in Baron Vladimir Harkonnen's service on the desert planet Arrakis, informally known as Dune!

Unfortunately, only a few reference photos of this vehicle exist and no blueprints are available. I managed to find just five pictures, but they were sufficient to identify most of the construction details. To be honest, I'm not sure if I used the correct style of tracks, but other features of this miniature were carefully reproduced on the basis of archive photos.

The base kit was cyber-hobby's 1:35 scale M4A3 HVSS Sherman from the Orange Box Value Series. It included not only the hull with suspension useful for this project, but also a 105mm howitzer gun barrel, a suitable commander's copula and some other details. ■

BUILDING THE DEVASTATOR

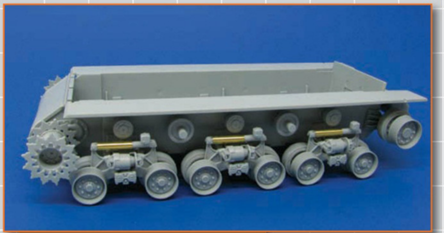
Getting Started – Lower Hull and Figures



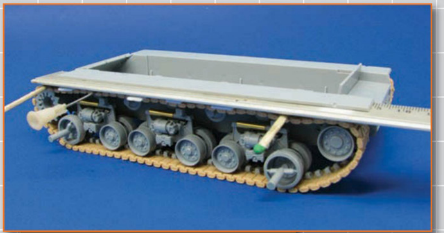
I started by assembling the suspension. Although the suspension bogies can be made to be fully workable, I decided to glue them rigidly. I did that for two reasons: first, to strengthen the whole section; second, in this case the effect of working suspension would be barely visible.

I didn't make any more modifications at this stage except for adding some damage to the rubber tyres. I scratched them using Olfa P-Cutter and macro-grit sandpaper.

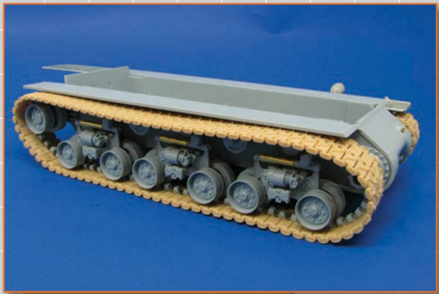
The damaged tyres ready for installation.



The completed suspension minus tyresglued in place on the lower hull.

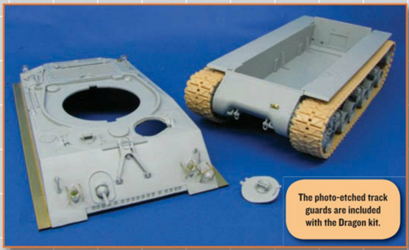


When I had finished the suspension, I mounted the DS-track links. I used some wedges to give the upper track run its proper shape.

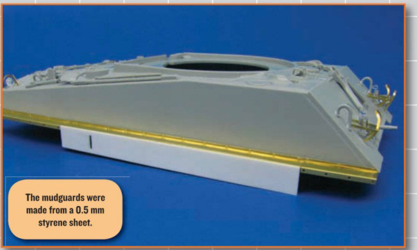


The tyres on the outside wheels were only temporarily attached. I left them off for easier painting.

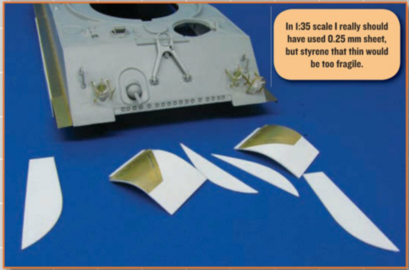
I completed the rest of the hull as per the instructions.



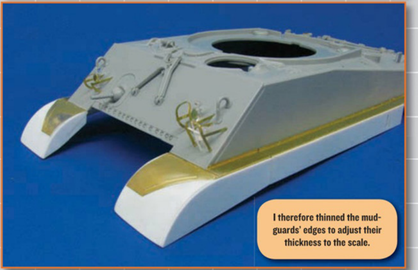
The photo-etched track guards are included with the Dragon kit.



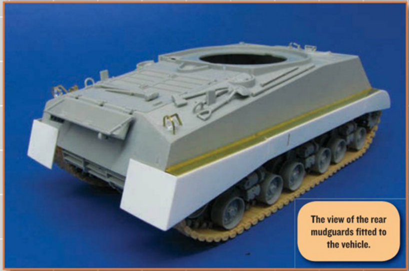
The mudguards were made from a 0.5 mm styrene sheet.



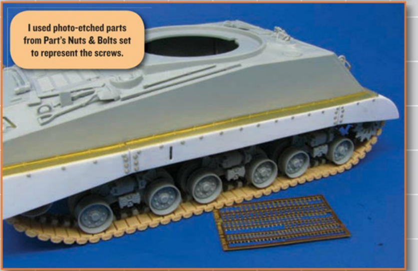
In 1:35 scale I really should have used 0.25 mm sheet, but styrene that thin would be too fragile.



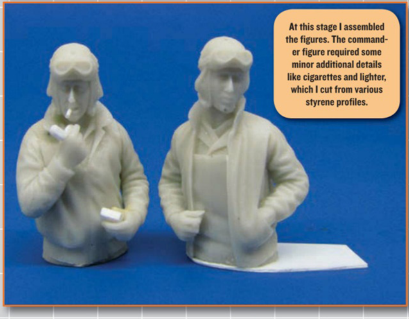
I therefore thinned the mudguards' edges to adjust their thickness to the scale.



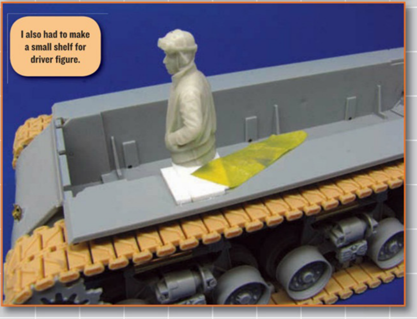
The view of the rear mudguards fitted to the vehicle.



I used photo-etched parts from Part's Nuts & Bolts set to represent the screws.

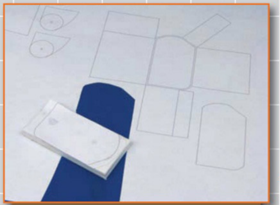


At this stage I assembled the figures. The commander figure required some minor additional details like cigarettes and lighter, which I cut from various styrene profiles.



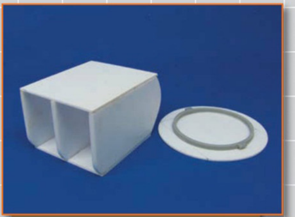
I also had to make a small shelf for driver figure.

The Turret

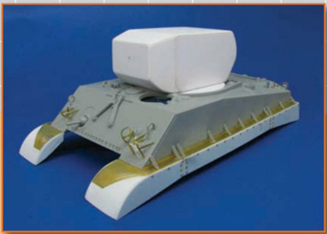


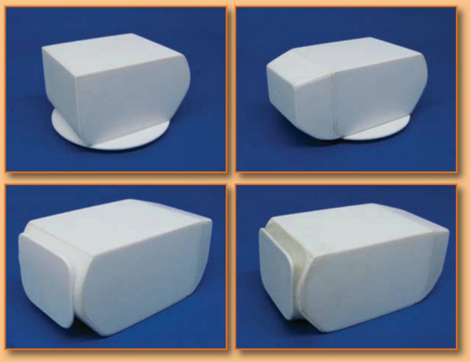
The first step for the turret was to draw blueprints of its main segments. To get a proper and repetitive shape of similar elements I usually use a simple technique. I temporarily glue a few layers of styrene sheets with a piece of paper with the required shape printed on, using only a few small drops of C.A. glue. Next, I cut it to the required shape and sand the whole element. This way I had have prepared the structure of the turret, which afterwards I taped onto segments cut from 1mm styrene sheets.

I next cut the round the floor pan from 1mm styrene sheet using my Olfa Compass Circle Cutter.

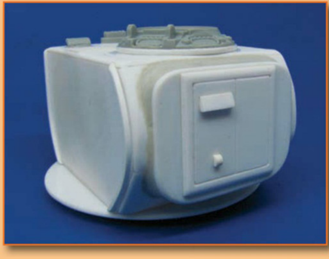


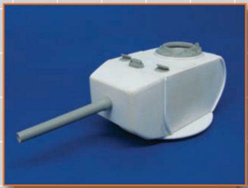
This was attached to the mounting ring cut off from the kit's part.



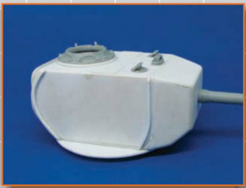


The previously cut shapes were then glued together.

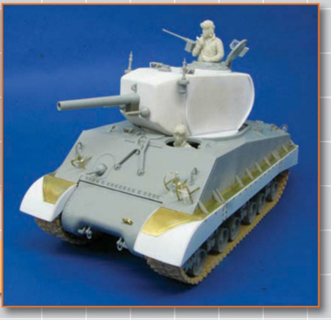




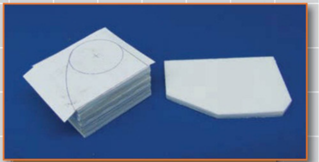
Some details like the commander's cupola, periscopes, machine guns mounts and howitzer barrel also came from the cyber-hobby box.



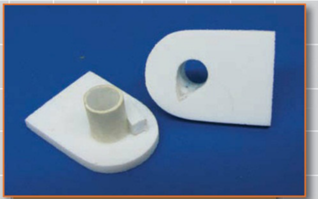
Others were cut out from various styrene sheets.



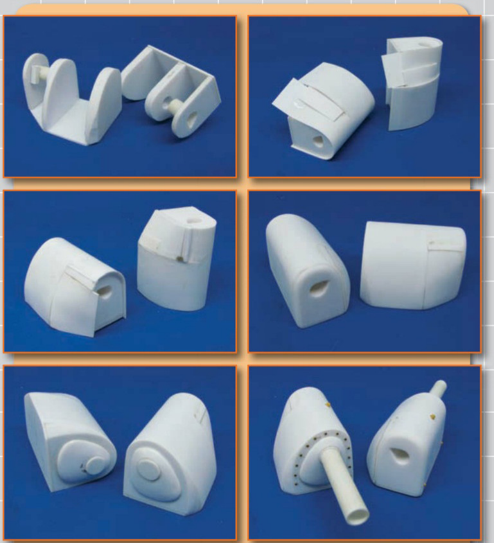
To join the parts I used super glue, which is also a great gap filler.



Due to its shape, the rocket sponsons required more attention. I began by cutting out the frameworks' ribs. When I had built the frameworks, I taped them with plates cut from 0.75mm styrene sheets, using a lot of super glue to connect all the plates and fill the gaps between them.

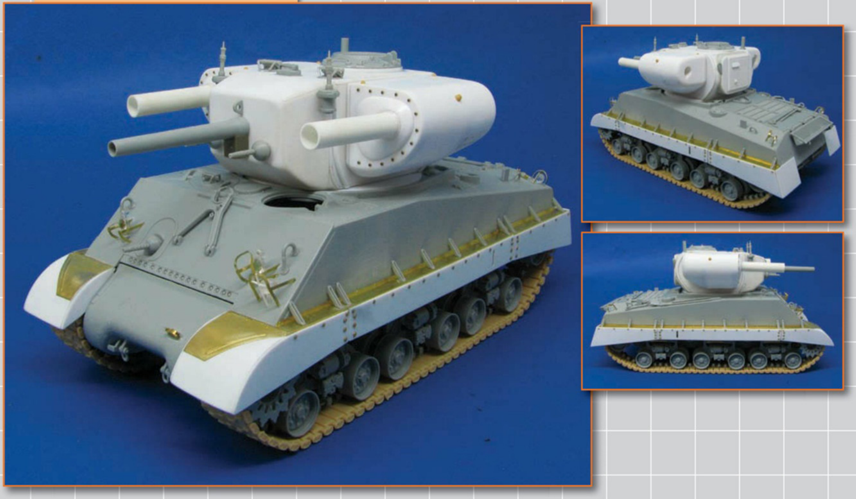


Next I gave both sponsons their proper shape with sandpapers and polishing blocks of different grits.

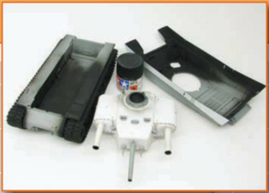


Now I could add small details and 6mm plastic pipes, which represent the rocket launchers.

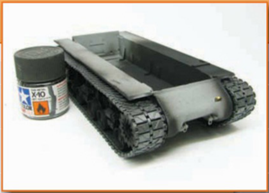
The assembly was nearly finished.



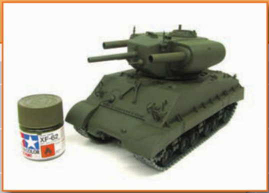
Painting



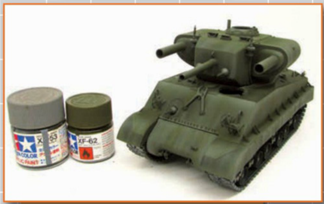
The paint job started by coating black over nearly the entire interior and chassis.



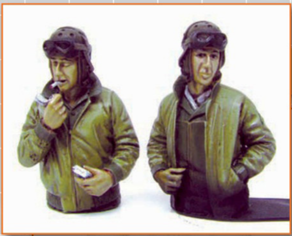
Next I airbrushed Tamiya Gunmetal on the tracks.



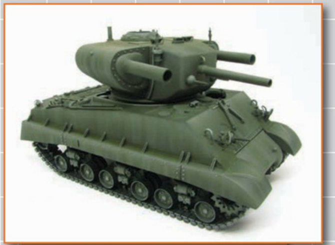
A layer of Tamiya Olive Drab sprayed over the vehicle worked as a primer and base coat as well.



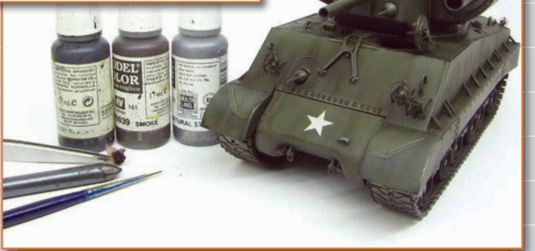
The highlights and vertical streaks were painted using a heavily diluted mixture of Olive Drab and Neutral Grey.



The figures were painted with Vallejo acrylics at this stage too.



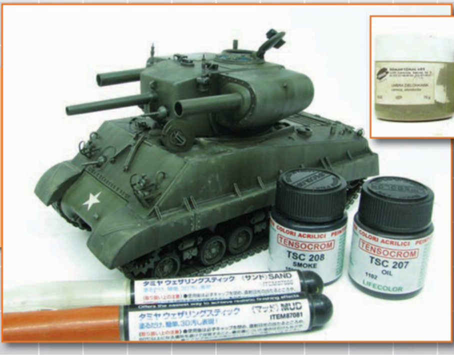
I sprayed from the top to bottom of the vehicle, often with the assistance of paint masks to enhance the borders between the shades on the particular areas of the tank. This treatment completed the airbrushing stage.

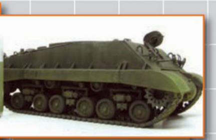


Now I took a fine brush and some Vallejo acrylics, and additionally lightened all the small raised details like bolts, rivets and weld lines. The tools, machine gun barrels and periscopes were also brush painted with Vallejo acrylics. Then I sprayed the model with clear gloss coat. After adding the decals I added another clear gloss coat on the kit. Its surface was now ready for a wash. I prepared a quite dense mixture of Van Dyke's Brown oil paint and white spirit, applied it to the kit, quickly removing the excess with the help of a paper towel and cotton buds. A satin coat was sprayed over the model before I started the weathering.

Weathering

As the vehicle had been only briefly tested on a training ground, I had to be subtle and not overdo the weathering effects. First I painted some fine paint chips and scratches using a piece of sponge and a very fine brush. To create the effect of bare metal I started with small amounts of Vallejo Smoke and continued with a mixture of Glossy Black, Smoke and Natural Steel. The edges and more exposed details were additionally wiped with a 8B pencil. All the spills and oil stains were applied using Lifecolor Tensocrom Oil and Smoke.



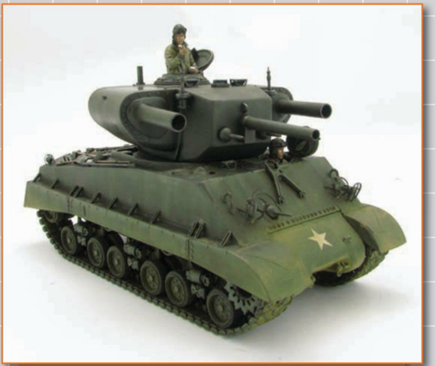


The final effect of employing Tensocroms may differ a lot depending on their dilution ratio and if the liquids are applied on dry or dampened surface, so I suggest you to make some tests on old build kits before using Tensocroms on a new model.

- T31 Demolition Tank alias Sherman Devastator

The commander in his cupola.

The driver fitted on top of his shelf, installed earlier in the hull.



One of the final jobs before assembling all the parts was adding the dust and trampled dirt in the areas where the crew usually walks. For this I used Tamiya Weathering Sticks. To vary the level of the effect, I applied them with a dampened brush on either dry or wet surfaces.

Following this were the pigments. First, I airbrushed German Green Raw Umber on the vehicle. When it had dried, I removed the excess of the pigment with a hard brush, wiping it off from top to bottom or along the vehicle.

When I was satisfied with the effect, I fixed the pigmented areas with MIG Productions Pigment Fixer. Afterwards I rubbed the tracks with a soft pencil in places where wear should be apparent.

The last step was to add some pigments in a few areas where they had been wiped off during the final assembly.

Dragon kits are distributed in the UK by
The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net

Diary Dates

To have your event included on this page, send your details to:
Diary Dates, ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane,
Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK
Tel:01525 222573•Fax:01525 222574•Email:editor@modelmilitary.com

September 8th-9th
QMHE 2012, BRISBANE AUSTRALIA
17th Anniversary 2012 Queensland Model Hobbies Expo and Queensland Scale Modelling Championships, will be held at the Brisbane Table Tennis Association Stadium, Green Terrace, Windsor (Downey Park), Brisbane, Queensland 4030, Australia from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm Saturday 08 September and 9.00 am to 4.00 pm Sunday 09 September 2012.
Visit www.qmhe.com or contact the Secretary; secretary@qmhe.com for more information.

October 6th
Abingdon IPMS Model Show.
Larkmead school, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1BB
Open from 10.00-16.00
Adult £3, con/OAP £2
There will be approximately 20 traders, 30 clubs stands, competition and Burger van.
For further information or booking details contact Simon Fisher email- simonfisher2008@btinternet.com or 07769 345271

October 6th-7th
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCALE MODEL EXPO (SASME)
The annual two-day South Australian Scale Model Expo (SASME) is the longest running model event of its type in Australia boasting a 30 year history.
Centenary Gym, Christian Brothers College,
214 Wakefield St, Adelaide, Australia
www.saplasticmodellers.com.au
Catering is also available at the venue.

October 13th
North Surrey Military Modelling Group's Annual Show will be held on Saturday 13th October 2012 from 10am- 4pm at: The Thomas Wall Centre, 52 Benhill Avenue, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 4DP

November 3rd
IPMS MIDDLE TENNESSEE MODEL CONTEST
will be held on November 3 2012 at: Rutherford Country Agricultural Center, 315 John Rice Boulevard, Murfreesboro, TN 37129.
The theme will be Fabulous 50s.
Doors open to vendors at 6:30am. Doors open to the public at 8:00am. Registration 8:00am to 12:00pm.
For additional information please contact Novus Henry. Phone 615 478 2305. Email nhenryjr@bellsouth.net; or Tom Winter. Phone 615 479 7737. Email a330driver@bellsouth.net

NEW from the 'HOW TO BUILD...' series

HOW TO BUILD...
TAMIYA'S 1:32
P-51D MUSTANG
Brett Green

Only £11.95 plus p&p

HOW TO BUILD...
TAMIYA'S 1:32 P-51D MUSTANG *by Brett Green*

The complete guide to building Tamiya's amazing 1:32 P-51D written by Brett Green of Hyperscale and Model Military fame.

This new book features an exhaustive step-by-step guide to construction plus two completed models, by Brett, Mark Glidden and a super-detailing feature by Roy Sutherland. Hundreds of images, reference photos and how to get the very best from your model - a must have before you build the model! Also features lists of after market parts and decals already available for Tamiya's Mustang...
Now available - Order now by completing the form below, going to www.adhbooks.com or by calling 01525 222573

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW ON TEL: 01525 222573 FAX: 01525 222574

MUSTANG BOOK

Name..............................
Address..............................
....
....
Post/zip code..............................
Country..............................
Telephone Number..............................

Please debit my credit/debit card for £..............................
Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Maestro ☐ other..............................
Card No..............................
Expiry date.................. Start date..................
Security Number (last 3 digits on signature strip)..................
Issue No (if applicable)..................

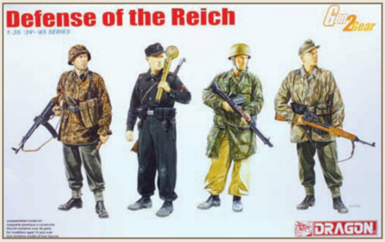
P&P: UK; £2.00 (£13.95),
Europe; £4.00 (£15.95),
World-Wide airmail; £6.00 (£17.95)
Cheques payable to: ADH Publishing Ltd.

Signature..............................
Date..............................

Please mail this form to;
ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, United Kingdom
Tel; +44(0)1525 222573 **Fax;** +44(0)1525 222574 **Online;** www.adhbooks.com
(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

www.adhbooks.comwww.adhbooks.comwww.adhbooks.com

Figures - A round-up of the latest figure sets on release...



DRAGON '39-'45 SERIES

1:35 SCALE DEFENSE OF THE REICH ITEM NO. 6694

The Dragon brand marches on with another release of quality German WWII figures, this time depicting the last days of the Reich. You have four figures in various uniforms; an SS soldier in late pattern camouflage smock, a Volkssturm figure in black overalls carrying a Panzerfaust, a Para in a jump smock and a Wehrmacht figure in a splinter camouflage smock.

The box is pretty much full of plastic and as well as the four figures you have sprues for weapons and personal equipment all nicely moulded in grey styrene and a small decal sheet. Starting with the figures the sculpting is first rate with well defined detail and facial features are very good indeed, I'm also pleased to say that on my example no die lines are present anywhere so hopefully Dragon have finally addressed this issue.

The personal gear and weapons are from the 'Gen2' range as is standard with Dragon plus on the figure sprue there are a couple of grenades and a Panzerfaust with the option of the aiming sight up or down which is a nice touch. Other weapons include an MG34, MG44, Gewehr 43. MP44, four Kar98 rifles, three MP40's, Walther P08 and Luger pistols, the FG42 machine gun has it's own sprue and features a bipod and four ammo magazines.

A first for me with Dragon figure sets is a decal sheet and this one is for the stencilling on two Panzerfausts which is a nice added detail, hopefully we'll get to see more of this in future releases.

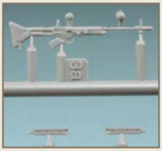
Assembly and painting instructions are on the back of the box with Model Master and Mr Hobby paints quoted plus you can use the excellent artwork by Ron Volstad on the front for reference.

I really like this set as the poses of the figures are not too relaxed or too 'in action', the detail as said before is great and although the title says 'Defence of the Reich' with the exception of the Volkssturm figure they could be used in any late war diorama. My only gripe (and it's a small one) is that as well as decals for the Panzerfausts it would have been nice to have one for the Volkssturm armband as it's tricky to paint. This is an excellent set.

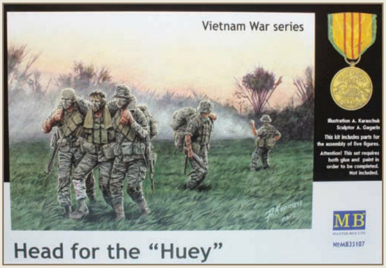
Highly Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Andy King

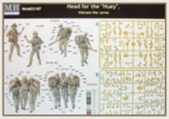


R Mun 4322
Panzerfaust


Vietnam War series
Illustration A. Karaschuk
Sculptor A. Gagarin
This kit includes parts for the assembly of five figures.
Attention! This set requires both glue and paint in order to be completed. Not included.
MB
№MB35107
Head for the "Huey"

MASTERBOX VIETNAM WAR SERIES

1:35 SCALE HEAD FOR THE "HUEY" • ITEM NO. MB35107



One of Masterbox's newest releases is this set of five figures from the Vietnam War period depicting a group of US soldiers heading for an emergency 'EVAC' by helicopter or APC. Two figures are supporting a wounded comrade while the others are providing cover.

The parts are moulded in a sand coloured styrene on two sprues with seam lines and a little flash present but these are easily removed with a sharp blade The level of detail is good especially the facial features and there is a wide variety of personal kit included such as different types of headgear, weapons and carrying frames for the back packs.

Weapons include the M16 (one with the M203 Grenade Launcher fitted), a M79 Grenade Launcher, XM177 Carbine, M3 'Grease Gun' and an AK47 along with smoke and fragmentation grenades.

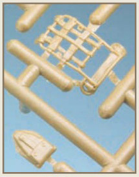
The assembly instructions are on the back of the box and with lots of lines and numbers pointing everywhere they are a bit confusing. Also, Masterbox doesn't put part numbers on the sprue so you have to keep referring to the box to find them. The colour guide refers you to the Vallejo range and although there are letters against each colour there are none indicated on the box to show you what colours go where so you'll need good references to paint the figures.

On the whole, the figures are nicely sculpted and the poses seem well balanced but some work will be required to get the two carrying a wounded soldier to blend together - not an impossible task but some thinking will be needed on how to do it. While not quite up to the standard of Dragon they are still very good (and competitively priced) and more importantly they cover a period that has largely been ignored by most manufacturers save the odd few. Great diorama potential if you have a 1:35 scale Huey kicking around. Hopefully we'll see more sets like this from Masterbox.

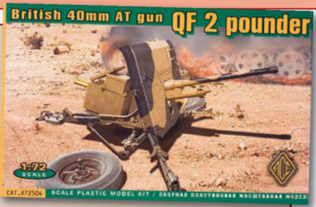
Recommended.

Thanks to Creative Models Limited for the sample www.creativemodels.co.uk

Andy King



Small Scale A round-up of the latest news and releases in 1:72 and 1:76


British 40mm AT gun QF 2 pounder
1:72 SCALE
CAT.#72504 SCALE PLASTIC MODEL KIT / СБОРНАЯ ПЛАСТИКОВАЯ МАСШТАБНАЯ МОДЕЛЬ

ACE

1:72 SCALE BRITISH 40MM AT GUN QF 2 POUNDER • KIT NO. 72504

ACE is a company well known for producing kits of unusual subjects. It has come up with the goods again with this little kit, which will be very popular with WWII Allied modellers.

The QF 2 pounder was used extensively in the early war years during the battle of France and the North African campaigns. It was also a common main gun in British armoured vehicles in the early years, gradually being replaced by the 6 pounder after 1942.

The kit comprises two small sprues and an instruction sheet in a zip-lock bag, in ACE's familiar 'lid and tray' box.

As these kits are of the 'short run' type, the moulding quality is not up to the standard of the major manufacturers, but with a little extra work they can be made into excellent display models.

The larger of the two sprues contains the gun, carriage and gun shields, with all the small detail parts on the smaller sprue. The parts do require some clean-up as there is a little flash and some sink holes to deal with, and a lot of dry-fitting is recommended to obtain a good fit of parts. The gun barrel will need drilling out and some parts, such as the extra sides of the gun shield are over scale in thickness and will need either sanding down or replacing with thinner styrene sheet.

The wheels, which can be assembled either on or off the model for firing or transport mode, are reasonably well produced but have no tread detail, which may be difficult to reproduce.

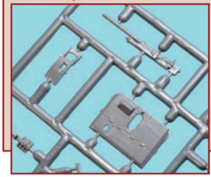
There are two paint schemes shown in the instructions, one for North Africa 1941, and one for France 1940. There is no decal sheet as no markings are shown on these paint schemes.

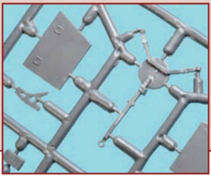
These short run kits are not advisabe for beginners but will be much appreciated by experienced modellers of early Allied equipment.

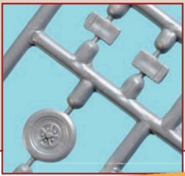
Recommended to experienced modellers.

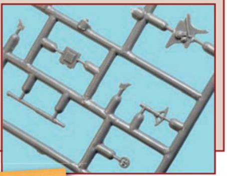
Thanks to Scale-Model-Kits for the sample www.scale-model-kits.com

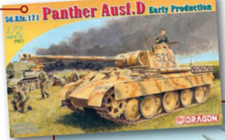
Steve Shrimpton











DRAGON

1:72 SCALE PANTHER AUSF D EARLY PRODUCTION • KIT NO. 7494

Dragon's 1:72 scale Panther Ausf. D Early Production kit has been eagerly awaited as the only other Ausf. D on the market has been the ageing Revell kit, which although good for its time, has several shortcomings.

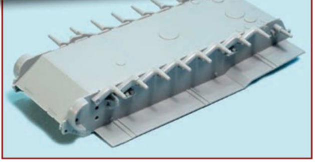
Dragon's earlier offering of the Ausf. G with zimmerit was well received and this kit is up to standard with perhaps only one or two disappointments.

The kit comes in the standard Dragon 'lid and tray' box, with excellent artwork, and consists of three sprues and a lower hull, all separately bagged, a sheet of decals and DS tracks on the usual inlay card, and an instruction sheet.

The moulding is excellent as ever with Dragon, with many parts making good use of the 'slide moulding' technique, as can be appreciated on such parts as the one piece lower hull. This has all the suspension arms fully detailed as well as all the hatches on the belly plate. The final drives are separate pieces with the idler wheel and bolt detail included.

The running gear is very well moulded with the now common linking of the inner road wheel to ensure perfect alignment. All the wheels are well produced with the correct bolt and hub detail.

The upper hull is again very nicely moulded, with the interlocking armour plate detail, engine deck louvers and bolt details finely produced. However, on the negative side, it is disappointing that the hull hatches are moulded closed and there are no photo-etched parts for engine deck screens, etc., which are usual in most Dragon kits. The rest of the hull details are good but the pioneer tools are moulded onto their frames and the barrel travel lock can only be assembled in the upright position without recourse to surgery!



The turret is again very nicely slide moulded, with separate pistol ports and shell ejection port, although there is a mixture of features regarding the rain guards over the ports and the gunners optics in the mantlet. The commander's cupola is slightly disappointing in that the hatch has been designed to be assembled closed although it is a separate part. Some minor surgery should correct this.

The DS tracks are up to the usual Dragon high standard, and with the added instructions on adjusting them to the right length, will look very good on the finished model.

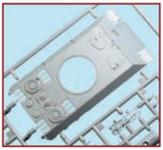
The well produced instructions give five painting and marking options, all from the Russian front in 1943, using the excellent Cartogaf decal sheet.

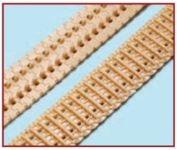
Overall this is a highly recommended kit that will produce a superb display model and a show stopper with a little extra work!

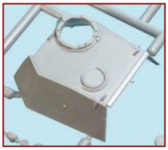
Highly Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Steve Shrimpton







101 101
824 824
745 745
521 521
445 445 445

GERMAN STEYR 1500A
KOMMANDEURWAGEN
HQ STAFF SET (w/7 FIGURES)
TAMIYA
ICM
ドイツ大型指揮官車 コマンドワーゲン
司令部スタッフセット（人形7体付き）

TAMIYA

1:35 SCALE

STEYR 1500A KOMMANDEURWAGEN W/HQ STAFF SET • KIT NO. 25149

Tamiya's 1:35 scale Steyr first appeared back in 1997 but it has held its age well. This latest re-release sees Tamiya team up with ICM to include an extra set of figures. The Steyr is typical Tamiya in that it is flawlessly moulded. Coming on 5 sprues with separately bagged bonnet and hood, it is made from 175 parts that include 3 figures and some accessories. The ICM set gives you a further four figures split over an additional 29 parts, and includes one General, two commanders, a female aide, and 3 Iron crosses between them. Add this to the General and Commander that come with the Steyr (another Iron Cross) and you have a gathering of brass that would ordinarily warrant an airstrike!

The Steyr is simplified in some places. For example the door handles are moulded solid, but that simplification does not (I feel) distract from the overall product. Features that caught my eye were the beautifully moulded pockets on the seat backs, the gear levers, and the fabric texture on the seats. I built one of these kits when it first came out and can report that it fell together, as I say it is typical Tamiya. The construction of the doors is well thought-out as you get separate inner and outer pieces that have the clear windows sandwiched between them. Tamiya don't shout about their prowess at using slide moulds and the bonnet is a perfect example of what they were doing before anyone else. Apart from a few mould lines to clean up this kit has no moulding imperfections, in fact most of the knock-out pin marks will be hidden from view on the finished item. Markings for 3 vehicles are provided, one is even tied to a specific General, General Ruoff.

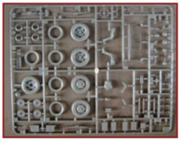
The ICM figures are nicely done but, like all plastic figures, will need the mould seams cleaning. There is no flash, pin marks or sink marks on my example and the detail definition is very good for plastic.

This would be an ideal kit for a new modeller, or great for a quick, relaxing, build. It has a Tamiya badge on it, so what more can I say?

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Graham Tetley



ARMOR35
Resin I/35
Railway track (I520 mm, L-I2500 mm)
Full kit
ARM3500I
PROJECT
WWW.ARMOR35.RU
MADE IN RUSSIA
The author of model - Alexey Shubin
Painted by Andrey Tsvetkov
Paint and glue are not included
For modeler age I4 and over

ARMOR35

1:35 SCALE

RAILWAY ACCESSORIES

There is on old saying that came to mind when reviewing these new sets from Armor35 - "Build a better mouse trap and the world will beat a path to your door". This is rather an apt description of what is on offer here, as these are without a doubt some of the finest resin railway castings I have seen for quite some time. The range includes;

- 1:35 Railway Track item ARM35001
- 1:35 Railway Nails (160 pieces) item ARM35009
- 1:35 Railway Sleeper (resin, 10 pieces) item ARM35010
- 1:35 Railway Sleeper (Wooden, 10 pieces) item ARM35011
- 1:35 Railway Ballast (fine sand) item ARM35021
- 1:35 Railway Coal item ARM35023
- 1:35 Railway Ballast (fine stone) item ARM35022

The first set comprises of a 36cm length of railway track, the casting of this piece is very impressive as there are no blemishes or warpage of any kind. The layout of this piece is a little different also as the builder will have to add their own ballast around the sleepers. The next set brings with it some of the smallest and highly detailed castings I have ever seen! This set includes 160 of the spikes that are driven into the sleepers that attach the rail to the sleeper. The next two sets are both sleepers. One is presented in resin while the other in finely cut wood, both are superb. The next 3 sets are either ballast or coal and are natural products that mimic their real life counterparts.

All these sets are presented with a fair degree of panache, and in this reviewer's opinion offer a substantial improvement on what is already available today. Armor35 can be contacted by email on shop@armor35.ru

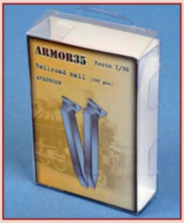
Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Armor35 for the samples www.armor35.ru

Luke Pitt

ARMOR35
wood I/35
Railway sleeper (10 pcs)

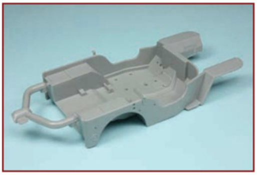
ARMOR35
Natural material
Ballast (Stone)
ARM35022


ARMOR35
Resin I/35
Railroad nail (160 pcs)
ARM35009

DRAGON '39-'45 SERIES

1:35 SCALE ARMOURED ¼ TON 4X4 TRUCK W/.50-CAL MACHINE GUN • KIT NO. 6714

1:35 '39-'45 SERIES
Armored 1/4 Ton 4x4 Truck w/.50-cal Machine Gun
DRAGON



The Willys Jeep is synonymous with WWII and has reached iconic status. It was even acclaimed as one of the vehicles that won the war. From a request by the US Army in the late 1930s to replace its ageing fleet of motor bikes and Ford Model T cars the ¼ ton 4x4 Truck (it's official name) was first produced in 1941 and saw service virtually everywhere around the globe. Over 640,000 were built and post-war different versions served with many armies in various conflicts. When the US Army left the Phillipines at the end of WWII many Jeeps were sold or given to the local population who converted them for taxi work, calling them Jeepney's.

This version of the jeep features armour plating around the cab and in front of the engine grill as an improvised way of giving the crew more protection. Armament was a .50 cal machine gun although pictures can be found of a mounting for two bazookas.

The kit is a standard jeep (minus the windscreen) and has over a 100 parts cleanly moulded in grey styrene with minimal mould seams. It also has some clear parts for the lights. The etch brass in the kit covers the armour plating, rear jerry can holder and brush guards for the lights and a small decal sheet includes vehicle numbers, stars and instrument dials.

The engine is very nicely detailed and only needs some wiring adding and the tread pattern on the tyres is well rendered. In step 9 of the instructions it shows the assembly of the .50 cal MG however there should be an addendum sheet in the box with instructions for using the gun from sprue J. As this vehicle was used for recon duties I'm surprised that no radios are included and these will have to be sourced from elsewhere.

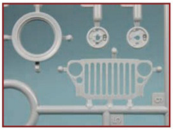
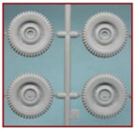
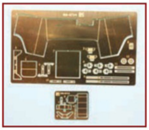
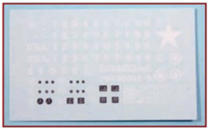
Painting and markings are limited to just one vehicle for the US Army on the Western Front in 1945 and I believe it belonged to the 82nd Airborne Division so to jazz up a rather plain scheme you could sprinkle some snow over it.

An interesting variation on the ubiquitous Jeep although I did notice that Dragon call it a 1/ 4 ton Truck, possibly to avoid a copyright lawsuit from Chrysler. With such a relatively small parts count it should be fairly straightforward to put together but as always read through the instructions as Dragon will catch you out somewhere along the way.

Recommended!

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample www.hobbyco.net

Andy King

J'S WORK

1:35 SCALE AIRBRUSH CAMOUFLAGE MASKS SETS

This new firm from China really seems to be setting the pace with a range of quite interesting and original aftermarket sets. What we have this month is a range of paper and masking tape masks for various German tanks these news sets:

- PPA5001: For a 1:35 Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer Camouflage scheme 1 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge factory applied ambush scheme)
- PPA5002: For a Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer Camouflage scheme 2 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge factory applied cloud scheme)
- PPA5007: For a 1:35 German King Tiger (Henschel Turret) Camouflage scheme 1 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge factory applied ambush scheme)
- PPA5008: For a 1:35 German King Tiger (Henschel Turret) Camouflage scheme 2 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge factory applied cloud scheme)
- PPA5013: For a 1:35 German King Tiger (Porsche Turret) Camouflage scheme 1 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge field applied cloud scheme)
- PPA5014: For a 1:35 German King Tiger (Porsche Turret) Camouflage scheme 2 (which depicts a 3 colour hard edge field applied cloud scheme)

All of the masks are die-cut onto a masking material that to all intents and purposes look (and indeed feel and works) like a really large strip of Tamiya masking tape. The die-cuts are clean and precisely cut which makes their removal painless. A fairly detailed set of instructions is included and for the most part, they clearly illustrate the steps involved. When an ambush scheme is depicted, a small paper card with the appropriate cut outs is included with the masks. I have tested a small portion of one of the sets sent for review and can report the masks do pull away cleanly and leave little or no residue behind.

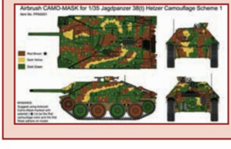
Anyone who has attempted to mask a hard edged camouflage on a German tank will detest how time consuming the whole task can become.

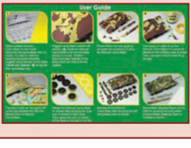
These news sets offer a real time saving benefit and come highly recommended for that reason alone.

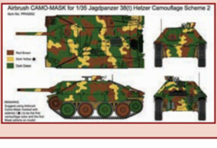
Highly Recommended.

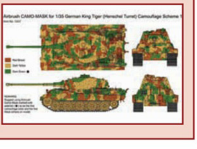
Thanks to Lucky Model for the review samples www.luckymodel.com

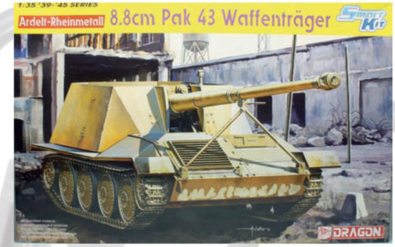
Luke Pitt


Airbrush CAMO-MASK for 1/35 Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer Camouflage Scheme 1
Red Brown
Dark Yellow
Dark Green




Airbrush CAMO-MASK for 1/35 Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer Camouflage Scheme 2
Red Brown
Dark Yellow
Dark Green


Airbrush CAMO-MASK for 1/35 German King Tiger (Henschel Turret) Camouflage Scheme 1
Red Brown
Dark Yellow
Dark Green



Dragon combines some brand new sprues with other more familiar parts to deliver another interesting 'Paper Panzer' in 1:35 scale.

TOP HEAVY 'TRAGER

The 8.8cm Waffentrager was designed to a requirement for a fully tracked vehicle that could have its gun removed and fired from the ground separately, a full 360 degree traverse on and off the chassis and have its own carriage when separated from the vehicle. Four companies submitted plans - Krupp, Steyr and Rhinemetall-Borsig - all based on the PzKpfw 38t with Ardelt offering their idea after the first round of plans were deemed unsatisfactory.

Finally, Ardelt won the contract (the idea of a removable gun was abandoned by this time) and Krupp was tasked with the final design and co-ordination of production. In the meantime, a prototype was built and tested with production scheduled to start in the Spring of 1945. Of course by then it was far too late and the project was abandoned at war's end.

This is another 'Paper Panzer', a vehicle that never went into production or left the drawing board but Dragon has deemed it worthy enough to make a kit out if it. However, somewhere along the line Dragon have gotten their wires crossed as this kit represents the Rhinemetall-Borsig design with an open-topped turret. The Ardelt version featured the gun with only a shield fitted.

Inside the box you will find sprues from Dragon's Nashorn, Jagdpanther, 38t Ausf G and Hetzer kits with four newly tooled sprues and a hull specifically for the Waffentrager. There is also some photo-etched brass and a small decal sheet included.

A good percentage of parts are shaded out as not for use so the spares box is in for a boost, however it should be noted that there are two sprues marked 'A' and two marked 'D'. Sprue 'F' as marked on the part layout diagram is really sprue 'B' and vice versa so check the instructions very carefully before commencing work.

Construction should be easy enough. The only real chore will be the individual track links. These need removing from the sprue and cleaning up as some flash is present. There is also a mould pin-mark in the middle of every link, some of which are raised but some not and will need filling.

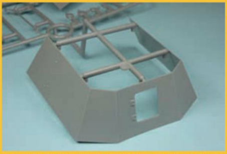
Interior detail is included for the driver's position but nothing for the engine compartment which is strange considering you get a complete engine in the kit. However, if you search online for 38t kit instructions you can put it together and fill out this area for a bit of added interest should you wish. The turret interior has a full breech and gun cradle assembly plus a rack for six shells but not a lot else, which is not really surprising given the subject matter.

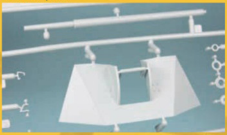
Two camouflage schemes are provided and both are in overall Dark Yellow for the prototype tested at Hillerleben in 1944 or 1945, the only difference being a shield was fitted to the front of the turret in 1945.

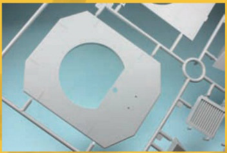
This kit is up to the usual Dragon standard, definitely one for the 'What-if' fans, and it will look nice on the shelf alongside the E100, E25 etc; but PLEASE Dragon can we have a Berge Panther next? At least they existed!

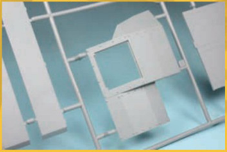
Andy King

Thanks to The Hobby Company Limited for the sample www.hobbyco.net

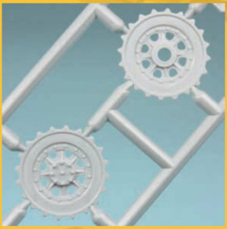

The newly tooled superstructure features nice weld beads moulded in place.


The new gun shield.


The open topped turret actually best represents the Rhinemetall-Borsig design.


Although an engine and poseable hatches are included, there is no detail in the engine bay.

Smaller parts are well rendered.


Lovely fine detail on the drive sprockets.

Fine treadplate patterns are present in the appropriate places.

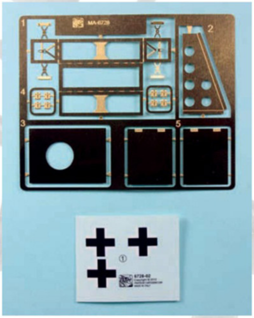
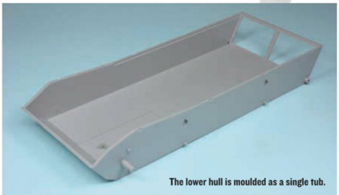
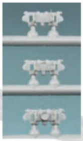


Photo-etched fret and decals.


The lower hull is moulded as a single tub.

Suspension elements


The track links will need some serious cleanup.

TAMIYA
1/48 MILITARY MINIATURE SERIES NO.72
1/48
MATILDA Mk.III/IV
BRITISH INFANTRY TANK Mk.IIA*

Luke Pitt takes a detailed look at Tamiya's latest entry to the 1:48 scale market.

MID-SCALE MATILDA

Tamiya's new 1:48 scale Matilda has some 120 parts over five sprues moulded in sand coloured plastic. The cover art on this release is outstanding with a sharp illustration adorning the now familiar black-bordered box. I would have liked Tamiya to allow the artist involved to sign his work as he is one of the best military illustrators currently working today. However, current research would indicate that the colours used on this artist's rendering should actually be a silver grey and slate combination.

Tamiya has seen fit to dispense with a die cast chassis and replace it with a much more logical approach of two small weights. The overall weight is the same, but the approach provides far more detail and is to be honest, easier to work with. The smaller road wheels are provided in two one-piece assemblies. This approach would usually mean a compromise in detail but Tamiya has pulled off something of a coup, as no detail is lost and indeed, it is one of the best time saving mouldings I have seen. The obvious bonus with this approach is the road-wheel alignment is almost foolproof. The track links are the now familiar link and length arrangement and are quite well done with only very fine knock out marks on the inside surfaces in evidence. Detail fanatics may want to drill out the distinctive track pin inserts.

Most of the tools and minor fitting on the hull are provided as separate parts which has its obvious advantages. The main turret (which has quite a complex shape) is provided as one main moulding with a smaller bottom moulding provided. The loader's hatch is moulded in the closed position but the level of detail in evidence is outstanding with the inclusion of bolt and screw depressions on the upper turret. The splash guard is of note, as it is both thin and very well defined. The main gun assembly is made up of just 6 parts but is masterfully done. In all, the model seems to display a mix of both Mk.III and Mk.IV details. Some of the parts, however are a bit simplified. For instance, the headlights, which lack their distinctive outer rim; and the driver's periscope, which lacks its top cover.

The instructions provided are both easy to read and well laid out. Other kit manufacturers would benefit from looking at these.

Three markings choices are provided and are scaled down copies of their 35th example. These are "Phantom" from the 42nd Tank Regiment in a 3 colour "Caunter Scheme". The next is "Defiance" from the 32nd Tank Brigade in the same scheme. My research suggests that the red on the fin flash is slightly too narrow and the 4 on the side of the hull is a little off. Also, this version did not seem to include the rear fuel tank. The last option is "Filibuster" from the 49th Tank Regiment based in the UK. In this case, my research would indicate that the red triangle on the side of the turret should be yellow. There are other modifications required for this option too, such as no fender cut outs, no drop tank and early lifting eyes on the front of the hull, but these are not mentioned on the instructions.

Current research is now agreed that the blue and brown callouts for the Caunter Scheme were more likely a silver grey and slate coloured combination; and the UK based example would be more likely in a single SCC.2 Brown.

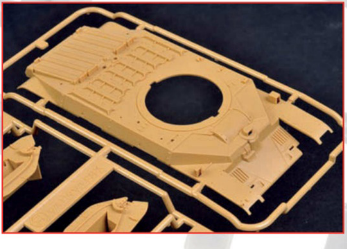
To counter this however, the kit scales out very well to all available reference drawings.

In summing up, this new 1:48 scale Matilda from Tamiya may well be the best example they have produced thus far. It is accurate in shape, has logical build steps, is easy to build and has a low parts count.

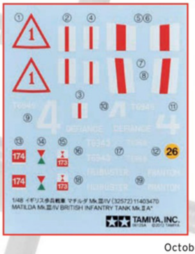
The model looks classy in its box. It is without a doubt a better kit than the old Bandai example and will be a very worthwhile purchase. ■

Thanks to Tamiya Japan for the sample www.tamiya.com

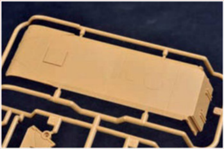
Tamiya products are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited www.hobbyco.net



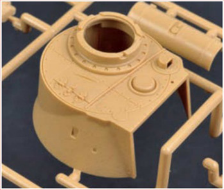
The one-piece upper hull.



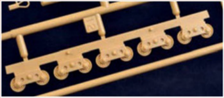
Markings are supplied for three vehicles.



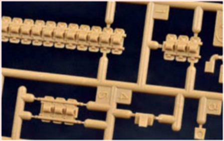
No die-cast metal here – the lower hull is well-detailed plastic.



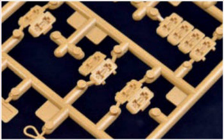
The top turret part.



The road wheels are arranged in two one-piece lengths. They are well-detailed and will be easy to assemble.

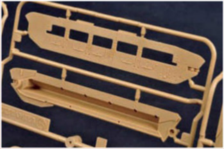


Tracks are link and length...



...with short sections moulded to curve around the drive sprockets and the idler wheels.

A Commander figure is included.



Raised and recessed surface features look great on the armoured sides.

Book Reviews

HOLLAND PARAAT! 1
Materieel van het Nederlandse Leger
Equipment of the Dutch Army
1939-1940
Jan Giesbers - Rob Tas - Antal Giesbers
Soldaten met infanterieschilden
Soldiers with infantry shields
Nederlands soldaat 1939-40
Dutch soldier 1939-40

GIESBERS MEDIA

HOLLAND PARAAT!

BY JAN GIESBERS, ROB TAS AND ANTAL GIESBERS

ISBN: 978-90-809339-2-7

The Dutch Army of WWII is not often covered in reference titles so this title is a very welcome reference on a much neglected subject.

The Dutch Army operated a mix of modern and obsolete weapon systems of both local and foreign design. This title is a photographic collection showing the major equipment in use before the Germans invaded and conquered Holland in 1940. The title is bilingual in Dutch and English and begins with a few page introduction to the Dutch Field army from its mobilisation to the defeat in 1940. The authors follow this with a fantastic collection of period photos in a layout reminiscent of a Concord title. The photos are in black and white and well reproduced, with each supported by concise and knowledgeable captioning.

In addition to the period photographs there is a small section showing colour photos of current museum pieces and colour plates. The books layout is logical progressing through machine guns, cavalry, motorcycles, motor transport, armoured cars, AFV's before concluding with a large section on the many varied artillery pieces operated by the Dutch Army.

The book is a great all-round primer on a very broad subject and I found the layout and structure well balanced and sensible with sharp print reproduction. It does not set out to be the ultimate all-encompassing reference but it does fill a yawning gap in references on Armed Forces of WWII.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Platypus Publications for the sample. Available by email to cldkrau@yahoo.com.au

Al Bowie

TREBIA PUBLISHING

MILITARY VEHICLES IN LEBANON 1975-1981

BY SAMER KASSIS

ISBN: 978-9953-0-2372-4

Lebanon suffered a catastrophic civil war in the 1970s and when the Lebanese Army broke up a significant amount of military hardware found its way into the various arsenals of the warring factions. A bewildering array of military vehicles from this period supplied by various outside supporters served in a myriad of unique and interesting schemes and colours.

This title presents the reader with a vast photographic collection of the main military vehicles that could be found in Lebanon during that tumultuous period. The collection is mainly in black and white however a there are some colour shots intermingled. The author has not concentrated on any particular factions and presents the full spectrum including the Lebanese Army, Palestinian Militias, National Movement, Lebanese Front, Arab Deterrence Forces, Israeli Army, the Free Lebanon Army and UNIFIL within its 88 pages.

The pictures cover a vast spectrum of military vehicles from WWII era armoured cars through to Warsaw Pact supplied vehicles and the M113 Zeldas of the invading Israelis. The vast number of types used in this conflict makes this a great purchase for the modeller or military historian and I was amazed at the number of types seen in this conflict such as the Saladin armoured car, the Charioteer tank destroyer, Staghound variants, AMX 13, M113, various Landrovers and other "Technicals". V100's, BMP's and ex Israeli Sherman variants.

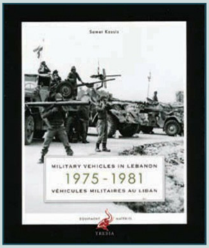
The Author is an expert in the Lebanese Civil War and a reporter for various military publications. He has used his knowledge to present the reader with a well-catalogued and captioned collection of photographs. His depth of knowledge is apparent in the informative captions, which provide a lot more than just what the vehicle is. The book is bilingual with both English and French text.

The book is lavishly illustrated with rare period shots of vehicles in service most (if not all) of which have not seen before in other publications. It is a great all round reference on a very broad subject and I found the layout and structure well balanced and sensible with sharp print reproduction.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Trebia Publishing for the sample www.facebook.com/TrebiaPublishing

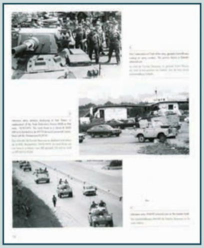
Al Bowie

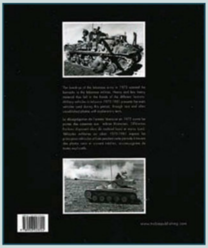


Samer Kassis

MILITARY VEHICLES IN LEBANON
1975-1981
VÉHICULES MILITAIRES AU LIBAN

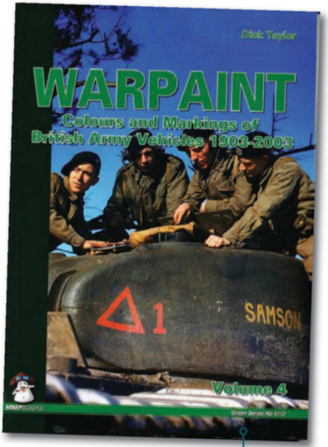
TREBIA





MMP BOOKS

WARPAINT - COLOURS & MARKINGS OF BRITISH ARMY VEHICLES 1903-2003 VOLUME IV
BY DICK TAYLOR
ISBN: 978-83-61421-24-5



Dick Taylor embarked on a monumental task with his Warpaint series of which this is the fourth and concluding title. He has now delivered a landmark work on understanding the complexities of British Army vehicle colours and markings.

Again, the Author has used his intimate knowledge of British Army vehicles and his research skills as a historian to deliver another detailed reference on British Army Vehicles colour schemes spanning a period of a hundred years. He makes the comment in his introduction that the sheer scope of the subject limits what can be achieved and on this I would agree, having many bookcases filled with titles on the subject. I believe Dick has gone further than any before in unlocking this once mysterious subject and making available to the reader the closest thing to a complete single reference on the subject.

This volume mainly covers the subjects of Air to Ground Recognition Systems, Vehicle Names and Miscellaneous Markings that have adorned British Military vehicles since 1903. The book is broken down into three superb Chapters:

Chapter 1 – Covers the Multitude of Air to Ground Recognition systems
Chapter 2 – Covers the most daunting and mystifying arena of British Army vehicle
Chapter 3 – Covers the multitude of miscellaneous markings that adorn military vehicles.

Like its predecessors, this volume is thorough and Lt Col Taylor's research presents the reader with data well supported by photographs in both black and white and colour. Primary sources are the basis of most of the information and I like the fact that, unlike other authors, he does not categorically state something based on a single source or interpretation of official documents (or photographs) but is measured in presenting the most credible outcome whilst remaining open minded as to interpretation. Whilst not in this title, Dick unearthed a comment in official records regarding the fact it was not always possible to follow official instructions and that local substitutes were sometimes used. I am sure his first hand experience with the subject has been invaluable in understanding and interpreting the facts.

Again the photographic smorgasbord presented in this book has been well selected to illustrate the information presented by the author and is again presenting a lot of rarely seen photos.

The chapter on Ground and Air Recognition systems is extensive and covers 31 pages. It is broken up into WWI, Between the Wars, World War II and Post War periods. Each section is well supported by relevant and well-captioned photos and even official sketches of the WWII schemes. Graphics and colour plates aid in illustrating this once dark area of research. This is the first title I have read that covers the full range of such markings used by the British Army in WWII and backs the text with suitable photos and excellent colour plates. This will be invaluable to the modellers amongst us.

The British Army soldier, like those of most armies, has a tradition of naming their vehicles (and equipment) and 21 pages are devoted to this topic, which is baffling in its complexity as conventions varied greatly (where they existed) across the greater Army. Whilst Dick has included great tables explaining the themes of naming conventions in the RTR and Other Regiments he goes one step further and the publishers provide downloadable PDF tables of known vehicle names of British and other Commonwealth and Allied Vehicles. This has been done in conjunction with fellow researcher Kevin Tucker who will be well known to those interested in British WWII armour.

The final chapter covers the myriad of miscellaneous markings that may be found on military vehicles. This is the largest chapter and covers an amazing range of markings and even covers the most difficult of markings such as those on vehicle fire extinguishers that will be well liked by modellers. As with the other chapters great photographs and diagrams are used to illustrate and explain the application of the markings.

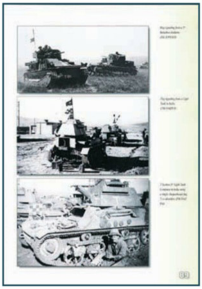
The Author is to be commended for this and its preceding titles, which have gone a long way to providing a single reference on a hugely complex subject. As with the other titles, these are well laid out and indexed allowing for easy access to information. For anyone with an interest in British armour or military vehicles these titles are essential and no serious modeller of British military vehicles should be without them. I cannot recommend these titles highly enough. Sadly, I only have the author's forthcoming title on British Army AFV Crewman to look forward to although I am sure we will see more excellent titles in the years ahead.

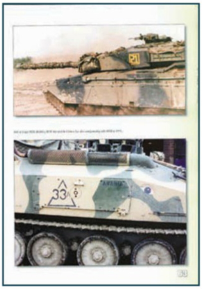
Again, I would recommend this book for those with an interest in British military vehicles whether as a modeller, historian or collector. It is well written, superbly researched and presented in an easy to read manner

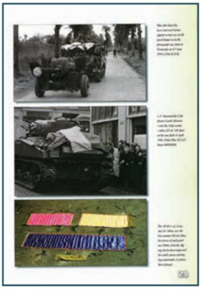
Highly Recommended.

Warpaint books are available online from MMP Books www.mmpbooks.com

Al Bowie







A NICHE IN TIME

I imagine that most of you who read this column on a regular basis are, by and large, fans of the scale but I wonder if the larger scale guys or indeed the smaller scale guys know how good our beloved 1:48 scale is?

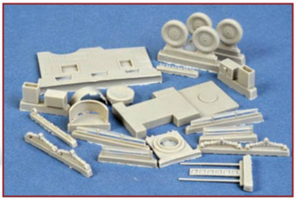
For instance, in my wanderings on the web, I have noted a fairly vocal movement in the 1:35 scale community commenting on how difficult some kits are now becoming to build. The main complaint, it would seem, is the sheer number of parts now included in most new 1:35 scale kits. Logic would dictate that the higher the parts count, the longer the build. Given, that many of us like a quick build, 1:48 scale could well be the answer. Looking at the history of 1:48 scale armour, the scale has never really fired. The old Aurora kits of the 1960s never really took off and the Bandai kits of the mid 1970s, while highly detailed, were never really going to compete with juggernaut that would become Tamiya.

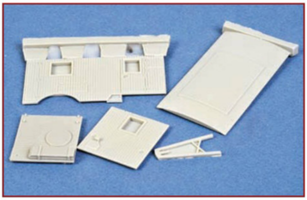
The key difference in those days was the tracks and the availability of figures both of which were superior in 1:35. When Tamiya reintroduced the scale they effectively cured the track issues but the supporting figures were still below par. The market (in my opinion) is in need of some good readily available plastic figures. Without them, the scale may well drift into a niche in time.

All that being said however, our interview next month with a Japanese modeller will dispel the myth that Tamiya figures are unworkable. What this gentleman has achieved is nothing short of amazing.

Until next time Luke Pitt

Luftwaffe Air Control Field Caravan Sd. Anh. 473
CMK
full Resin kit 1/48





CMK

LUFTWAFFE AIR CONTROL FIELD CARAVAN • ITEM NO. 8039

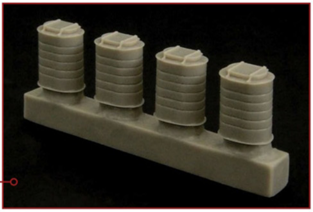
The Sd.Anh.473 was a two-axle special-purpose fully enclosed cart employed by the Germans. Used mainly as a mobile radio station, aid station or guard station, it saw extensive use during the Second World War. So widely produced was the type it often found its way into other European nations inventory after the war.

Comprising 38 very well cast resin parts together with one small clear acetate sheet, the kit is very well done. The wheel castings are particularly noteworthy as they have a quite convincing tread pattern in evidence. A well illustrated set of instructions is included that include 14 construction steps. These steps are quite logical and very well drawn. Four colourful paint schemes are suggested and are printed in colour, which is a very nice touch. The only drawback I can possible see with this kit is that it lacks and interior. Other than that, this release from CMK is refreshingly different and very well done.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to CMK for the review sample www.cmkkits.com

Luke Pitt



HAULER

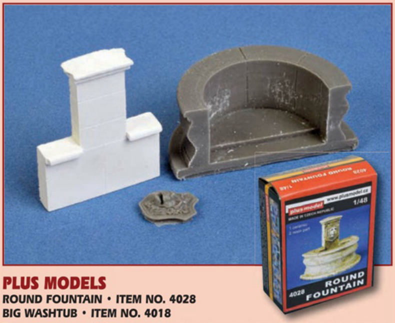
SOVIET THERMOS CANS • ITEM NO. HLF48020

Who else but Hauler would come up with something like this? Four, uniquely shaped World War II era Soviet Thermos can are included in this set and they are quite simply superb. I like these, as they will add a splash of difference to any vehicle or diorama they are placed in. As with all Hauler products, it is a first class offering with no casting imperfections whatsoever.

Highly Recommended.

Thanks to Hauler for the review sample www.hauer.cz

Luke Pitt



PLUS MODELS

ROUND FOUNTAIN • ITEM NO. 4028
BIG WASHTUB • ITEM NO. 4018

These two new offerings from Plus Model are quite well done and include a beautiful semi-circular "Round Fountain" (#4028) and a "Big Washtub" (#4018) both in 1:48 scale. The round fountain kit includes one ceramic and two resin pieces. The fountain itself is actually a semi-circular structure with a tall ceramic centrepiece and a beautifully replicated lion's head. This kit would be the primary focal point for a diorama needing a small town water source, where you could replicate running water with some clear resin and styrene.

1/48
plusmodel
4018
Big Washtub

The "big washtub" is actually a wooden kit with fourteen laser cut pieces of thin veneer. Once assembled, the washtub is big enough for a scale person or two to take a bath in. A perfect and humorous addition for any diorama depicting soldiers trying to wash the road dirt off themselves.

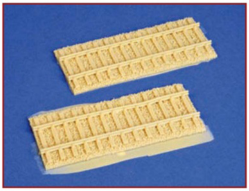
Both these sets are highly recommended.

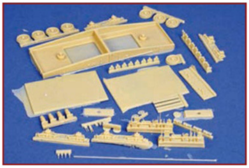
Thanks to Plus Models for the review sample www.plusmodel.cz

Darrick Christensen

Luke Pitt hosts MMI's examination of the growing world of 1:48 scale military models, figures and accessories.

Verlinden Productions
2348
Panzer Plattformwagen Heavy
1:48 Scale
Made in the USA





VERLINDEN

HEAVY PANZER PLATTFORMWAGEN

KIT NO. 2348

The German Plattformwagon was essentially designed to shift German tanks and came in 30, 50 and 80 ton haulage ranges. This Verlinden offering is one of the variants of the type in the 50 ton range. The 50 ton Plattformwagon was used by the Deutsche Reichsbahn to transport armoured fighting vehicles such Panthers and, at a stretch, Tigers throughout Europe for the German Wehrmacht during the WWII.

The contents of this kit consist of 58 resin pieces and some copper wire. The instruction sheet sets out the key resin part numbers as well as the eight construction steps. The resin parts are very nicely produced with the upper and lower flatcar assembly parts exhibiting some very finely cast details. As usual, you will need to be very careful when removing the resin casting plugs from all of these parts and, in particular, the smaller resin items.

You will also need to pay careful attention to the instructions and test fit as you go to ensure everything is where it should be some additional references may also be helpful in this case particularly, with the bogie assemblies (as there is a lot going on down there).

Two very well cast track sections are included. This is another well produced kit that will add a different feel to any 1:48 scale diorama you wish to use it in.

Recommended.

Thanks to Verlinden for the review sample www.verlindenonline.com

Luke Pitt

MMI 1:48 Scale Q&A with Artur Walachowski

Artur Walachowski lives in Poland, in the city of Bialystok. He (unlike most of us) makes his living by making models. He builds them in several scales, depending on what his client's wishes are. I like Arthur's work as he brings a different style of painting to the fore.

THE INTERVIEW

Luke: Hi Artur. Good to have you with us. What would you consider to be your best 1:48 scale model and why?

Artur: ***That is a difficult question. I like many of my models for a variety of reasons. Many feature something that makes them interesting or unique in one way or another. Some feature an interesting construction technique, while others have an interesting camouflage. I am very happy with my Tamiya Stug III B, because of its very unusual shape, and because I had the chance to add lots of resin and photo etched parts. That is in my opinion one of, if not my best, creations yet.***

Luke: What is the most influential 1:48 scale model you have seen in print and why?

Artur: ***To be honest, the most interesting models I have seen thus far have published on the internet. I can't remember when I saw a really breathtaking model in print. Out of all models out there, and considering the ones I have had the pleasure to build, there are some that are more inspiring and interesting than others. Some, because of their shape; others for their almost endless possibilities in terms of paint schemes, and some because of a great choice of aftermarket parts. If I had to choose one best built and painted models in 1:48 to date, I'd go for Jagdpanzer 38(t) Hetzer from Alberto Pineda.***

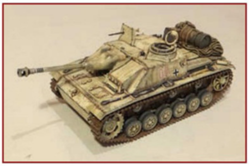
Luke: If you had to pick one kit that should be made in 1:48 what would that be?

Artur: ***Tough choice. I wish for so many different things that are not available to date, but if I had to choose only one, I'd love to see the Sd.Kfz. 9 Famo with trailer if possible***

Luke: What, in your opinion would be a good way to promote 1:48 scale so it gains in popularity?

Artur: ***I actually think that 1:48 scale is doing quite well, and gaining more and more popularity. I often read that modellers whose interest lies mainly in aircraft would buy vehicles as add-ons for dioramas. I think the best way to gain even more popularity would be basically through enhancing the number of different models on the market. Today the most popular scale 1:35 is of course leading in almost every aspect, but you can see that many modellers become interested in 1:48, because it seems to be the "missing link" between 1:72 and 1:35...***

Luke: Thanks for your time Artur, I am inspired by your builds and know a lot of others are too.



BUYERS GUIDE

ADVERTISE HERE!

**IF YOU ARE READING THIS
THEN SO ARE THOUSANDS OF OTHERS.
FOR INFORMATION,
CALL COLIN SPINNER ON 01525 222573
OR MARK PEACOCK ON 01234 273434**

D-9 MODELS

Tel/Fax: 01633 222282

Unit 7, Chartist Tower, Upper Dock Street, Newport, South Wales NP20 1DX

MONDAY TO SATURDAY 8.30AM - 5.00PM

SPECIALIST PLASTIC KIT MODEL SHOP. BRANDS INCLUDE TAMIYA, TRUMPETER, ITALERI, REVELL, DRAGON, AFV, HASEGAWA, RODEN, EDUARD AND MORE

www.d-9models.co.uk ***marek@d-9models.co.uk***

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS. MAIL ORDER

AYRSHIRE MODEL CENTRE

Tel: 01292 886614

6a Newbridge Street, Ayr, Ayrshire, KA7 1JX

***TAMIYA, DRAGON, MIG PRODUCTIONS, VALLEJO AND MANY MORE
NOW STOCKING AIRSOFT PRODUCTS***

OPENING HOURS: MONDAY – SATURDAY 9.30 – 5.00, SUNDAY 11.00 – 4.00

www.ayrshire-model-centre.co.uk

WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CARDS

HALIFAX MODELLERS WORLD

Tel: 01422 349157

Halifax Modellers World , 29 Union Street, Halifax, HX1 1PR

ALL MODELS,ALL MAKES,ALL SCALES.

OPENING HOURS: MON,TUES,THUR 10.30-17.30,WED CLOSED,
FRI 10.30-17.00,SAT 9.30-17.00,SUN 10.30-16.30

www.halifaxmodellersworld.co.uk

Email:halifaxmodellersworld@fsmail.net

AVID READER

Tel: 01299 823 330 Fax:01299 829 970

Unit 10, Hodfar Road, Sandy lane Ind Estate, Stourport On Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 9QB

***MILITARY, AVIATION, NAVAL, MODELLING,
RAILWAYS, CAR & MOTORCYCLE BOOKS***

9.30 – 4.30 MONDAY TO FRIDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

WWW.BOOKWORLDWS.CO.UK

INFO@BOOKWORLDWS.CO.UK VISA/MASTERCARD/MAESTRO

HANNANTS MODEL SHOP

Tel: 0208 205 6697 Fax: 01502 500521

Unit 2, Hurricane Trading Estate, Grahame Park Way, Colindale, NW9 5QW

OPEN 10.00AM - 5.30PM, THURS & FRI OPEN UNTIL 7.00PM

NO1 IN EUROPE FOR PLASTIC KITS AND ACCESSORIES
INCLUDING THE FULL RANGE OF TAMIYA (NOT RC)

email: sales@hannants.co.uk ***www.hannants.co.uk***

1/2 MILE FROM
RAF MUSEUM **MASTERCARD/VISA/SWITCH**

PARABELLUM

Tel: 0121 551 8878 Fax: 0121 707 1471

54 Vyse Street, Hockley, Birmingham, BI8 6HR

11.00AM TO 5.30PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY

SPECIALISING IN AIRCRAFT, ARMOUR, VEHICLES & FIGURES IN 1/72, 1/48 & 1/35,
VALLEJO PAINTS, MAIL ORDER

1/48 website: www.parabellum.co.uk email: sales@parabellum.co.uk

MASTERCARD/VISA

ADVERTISE HERE!

**IF YOU ARE READING THIS
THEN SO ARE THOUSANDS OF OTHERS.
FOR INFORMATION,
CALL COLIN SPINNER ON 01525 222573
OR MARK PEACOCK ON 01234 273434**

WEB BROWSER

www.accurate-armour.com

Accurate Armour **OVER 2000 products on-line NOW!**

5th Anniversary
Sprue Brothers Models Inc
spruebrothers.com

Sprue Brothers Models
IS the new standard in hobby shopping.
If we list it - we stock it!
www.spruebrothers.com

TAMIYA **tamiya.com**

D-Day 1944
SPITFIRE
M113 APC in Vietnam
ADH PUBLISHING
Squadron/Signal Publications

adhbooks.com

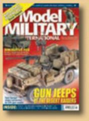
missing-lynx.com **www.missing-lynx.com**

10th Year 1998 - 2007
HyperScale **www.hyperscale.com**

DON'T MISS A THING....

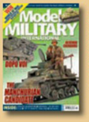
Only £4.20 (UK) £5.25 (Europe) £6.45 (World-wide) including postage

Don't worry, all the issues are still available to buy and full details are on the website @
www.modelmilitaryinternational.com



Issue 55
- Swash Design I:35 scale conversions of Tamiya's Jeeps
- War and Peace 2010 report
- Tasca I:35 M4A3E8 Easy Eight
- T-84 OPLOT project
- Tamiya I:35 Panther Diorama
- Revell I:72 Fennek
- Bronco I:35 I7pdr
- Hobby Boss I:35 T26E4 by Al Bowie

» and more...



Issue 56
- Fine Molds I:35 Type 94 Japanese Tank
- Tamiya I:35 BT-7
- GreatWall Hobby I:35 sWS with Flak 43
- Trumpeter I:35 Panzerjager Triebwagen
- Dragon I:35 Jagdpanther
- Sherman Firefly Mk.VC conversion
- Small-scale Cherbourg diorama Pt.5

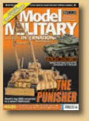
» and more...

Issue 57
- Trumpeter I:35 MIII7 Guardian
- Heavily rebuilt I:35 Marder II Ausf. D
- Academy I:35 M3 Grant
- Verlinden I:35 TIE3 mine roller conversion
- Dragon I:35 Tiger I
- Dragon I:35 M7 Priest
- Dragon I:6 Jeep

» and more...

Issue 58
- Dragon I:35 Pz.Kpfw. 38(t)
- Tasca I:35 M4A3(76)W
- ScaleModelworld 2010 Report
- Alan's heavily rebuilt I:35 Marder II Ausf. D
- Tamiya I:35 SAS Jeeps conversion
- Italeri I:35 M923 Big Foot
- BaxMod I:35 Ratel
- Flags and Packs TechGuide

» and more...



Issue 59
- Revell and Legends I:35 M88A2 HERCULES conversion
- Italeri I:35 M24 Chaffee
- Bugle Call 2010 show report
- Italeri I:35 Biber U-Boat
- Dragon I:35 Sd.Kfz 25I/9 Kanonenwagen
- Italeri I:35 AB 4I
- Snow Technique Tech Guide
- MiniArt I:35 scale British Valentine

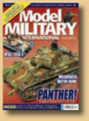
» and more...

Issue 60
- Dragon I:35 scale M7 Priest
- MiniArt Su-76M conversion
- I:35 motorhome conversion
- Hetzer Vignette Tech Guide Pt.I
- Italeri I:35 GMC Truck and Panzer 38(t)
- Real Model LAV-III LORIT conversion
- Dragon I:72 scale Tiger I
- Italeri I:48 Sd.Kfz.234/2 Puma and Tankerwagen

» and more...

Issue 61
- I:35 scale T-62MI conversion
- Jeff Shiu large scale SS MG 34 gunner
- Dragon I:35 scale M7 Priest
- Bronco I:35 Archer I7 Pdr SPG
- Hetzer Vignette Tech Guide Pt.2
- Dragon's Sd.Kfz. 7 Early Version
- HobbyBoss I:35 scale VK I602 Leopard
- Dragon I:48 Panzerfahre

» and more...

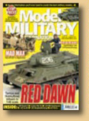


Issue 62
- I:35 MIA2 Abrams with TUSK II conversion
- Sd.Kfz. 234/3 diorama
- Dragon I:35 Befehls Panther
- Dragon RSO in winter whitewash
- Dragon's Panzer IV Ausf. G
- Dragon's I:35 scale Flakvierling
- Tamiya Pz. 35(t)
- Tamiya's I:35 scale M5 and M8

» and more...

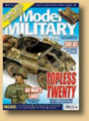
Issue 63
- I:35 Accurate Armour Coyote TSV
- Dragon I:35 Henschel Jagdtiger
- Dust Models I:35 Heinrich Walker
- HobbyBoss I:35 M3AI White Scout Car
- I:48 HobbyBoss T-34/76
- Dragon I:35 Pz.Bef.Wg I
- HobbyBoss I:35 VK4502
- Italeri I:48 88mm gun

» and more...



Issue 64
- I:48 T-34/76 kitbashed
- Multimedia Tatra in I:35 scale
- CyberHobby I:35 Neubaufahrzeug
- HobbyBoss I:35 M3AI White Scout Car
- GreatWall Hobby I:35 I2.8cm Pak 44
- CyberHobby I:35 Neubaufahrzeug
- Tasca I:35 Easy Eight
- Tamiya I:48 Panzer II Ausf.A/B/C
- Dragon I:35 Su-85M

» and more...



Issue 65
- Revell I:35 Fuchs
- AMPS 20II Show Report
- Tamiya I:35 M20
- Large scale WWI bust
- Bronco I:35 Hotchkiss H 39
- I:35 Japanese Type 97 Shi-Ki conversion
- I:35 Leopard 2A7 conversion
- Dragon I:35 VK4502
- Dragon I:35 Wirbelwind

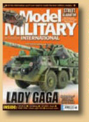
» and more...

Issue 66
- I:35 Dragon Type 2 Ka-Mi
- Tankfest 20II Show Report
- Trumpeter I:35 EI00
- Gaso.Line I:48 Buffalo MRAP
- Scratch built I:32 M3 Panhard
- Hobby Boss I:35 scale ZTZ 96
- Tristar I:35 Panzer IV/70 (A)
- HobbyBoss I:35 ZTZ 96 Chinese MBT
- Revell I:72 88 mm FLAK gun

» and more...

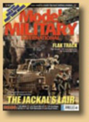
Issue 67
- I:35 Warrior OPV conversion
- Tamiya I:35 Sd.Kfz.232 in desert camouflage
- War and Peace 20II Show Report
- Vulcan I:35 Light Tank Mk.VI B
- M728 CEV Conversion
- AFV Club I:35 scale Nashorn
- Dragon I:35 scale M2AI
- Tamiya King Tiger

» and more...



Issue 68
- HobbyBoss I:35 ShkH DANA
- Bronco I:35 Hotchkiss H35
- MIG Productions I:35 Damaged Modern Pickup Hilux
- Tamiya BT-42
- Dust Walker and Figure
- MiniArt I:35 Valentine Mk.I
- Italeri I:35 M3AI

» and more...

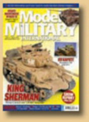


Issue 69
- Tamiya I:48 and I:35 Panzer II Ausf. A/B/C plus Bronco's I:35 Ausf.D. Pt.I
- Accurate Armour I:35 Jackal 2
- Tamiya FAMO, Dragon 88mm plus Tiger Model Design conversion parts
- Kit Form Services Ferret Mk. 2/3
- Build your first tank model
- ICM I:35 Mercedes G4
- HobbyBoss I:35 MRAV

» and more...

Issue 70
- AFV Club's I:35 MII26 Stryker
- AFV Club's I:35 Churchill in Soviet colours
- Young Miniatures I:I0 Ardennes Machine Gunner bust
- HobbyBoss I:35 ShkH DANA Pt.2
- Dragon I:35 Sd.Kfz. I0/5
- Showcase Models Australia I:35 Bushmaster
- Tristar I:35 Minitionspanzer I

» and more...



Issue 7I
- Tamiya I:35 M5I
- MMSI Show Report
- Dragon I:35 conversion
- Italeri I:24 Opel Blitz
- Trumpeter I:35 diorama
- Dragon I:35 RSO
- Bronco I:35 Bishop
- Model Victoria I:35 CV-33 Tankette

» and more...

Issue 72
- Kit Form Services I:24 Ferret
- Cz Kolinec I:35 Zrinyi
- MiniArt Valentine Mk.IV
- Foliage Tech Guide Pt.I
- Kinetic I:35 M-ATV
- HobbyBoss RSOV Landrover
- Dragon I:35 M4A3(75)W Sherman
- Trumpeter KV-8 & Aerosan

» and more...

Issue 73
- I:35 scale BT-7M conversion
- AFV Club I:35 scale MII28
- Bronco I:35 scale Adler
- Tamiya I:48 scale Opel Blitz
- Trumpeter kit by Michel Perez
- Dragon Panzer III Ausf. M
- Dragon I:35 scale Bison II
- Trumpeter I:35 scale Neubaufahrzeug

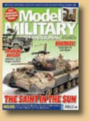
» and more...

Issue 74
- I:35 scale Tamiya T-55 Enigma PtI
- Tamiya I:48 Marder III M
- Young Miniatures' 82nd Airborne Bust
- MiniArt's I:35 scale BA-64
- Zvezda I:35 scale T-90 Main Battle Tank
- Panda I:35 scale M-ATV
- Dragon I:35 scale Jagdpanzer IV L/70
- Tamiya I:48 scale Js-2

» and more...

Issue 75
- Zvezda I:35 T-90 Main Battle Tank
- Derek Hansen of Accurate Armour
- Revell I:72 King Tiger
- 'Game Over For Gaddafi' I:35 diorama
- I:35 Cyberhobby Panzerbefehlswagen III Ausf. J
- HobbyBoss I:35 scale CV-90
- Trumpeter I:35 scale I52mm m I937

» and more...



Issue 76
- MiniArt I:35 Valentine
- HobbyBoss I:35 Land Rover RSOV
- Trumpeter's I:35 JGSDF Type 96 WAPC Type A
- Dragon I:35 scale Sd.Kfz. I0/5
- HobbyBoss I:35 ZBD-05
- Kinetic Model Kits I:35 Self-Propelled Howitzer MI09A2
- Melbourne Model Expo 20I2
- I:35 scratch built diorama and figures

» and more...

Issue 77
- Tamiya I:35 scale Elefant pt.I
- Academy I:35 Merkava IV LIC
- Dragon I:35 Sd.Kfz. 25I/I7 Ausf.D
- Bronco I:35 scale YW-53IC
- AMPS 20I2 Show Report
- Dragon I:35 2cm Flak 38
- Meng Models I:35 Merkava 3D Early
- Ferdinand and Elefant Family Ref

» and more...

SUBSCRIBE NOW AND NEVER MISS AN ISSUE!

visit : www.modelmilitary.com for more info or to order online

ORDER FORM - MMI

First name ....
Surname ....
Address ....
....
....
Post/zip code ....
Country ....
Telephone Number ....

Please debit my credit/debit card for £ ....
Visa ☐ /Mastercard ☐ /Maestro ☐ /other ....
Card No. ....
Expiry date .... Start date ....
Security Number (last 3 digits on signature strip) ....
Issue No (if applicable) ....

Issues cost: UK; £4.20, Europe; £5.25, Worldwide; £6.45 (Inc postage)
Cheques payable to: ADH Publishing Ltd.
Please send me issue(s) ....
Signature ....
Date ....

Please mail this form to;
ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, United Kingdom
Tel; +44(0)1525 222573 **Fax;** +44(0)1525 222574 **Online;** www.modelmilitary.com
(Photocopies of this form are acceptable)

Tel: 01525 222573 - Email: enquiries@adhpublishing.com

Contact Details - for companies featured in MMI...

ACCURATE ARMOUR/ ARMOUR DISTRIBUTION
Units 15-16 Kingston Industrial Estate,
Port Glasgow, Inverclyde, PA14 5DG Scotland.
Tel; 01475 743 955
Fax; 01475 743746
www.accurate-armour.com

ADALBERTUS
Iberyjska 7/49, 02-764 , Warsaw,Poland
adalbertus@adalbertus.com.pl
www.adalbertus.com.pl

THE AIRBRUSH COMPANY Ltd
Unit 7 Marlborough Road, Lancing Business Park,
Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 8UF.
Tel; 08700 660 445
www.airbrushes.com

ALCLAD II LACQUER
5 St Georges Close, Bacton, Norfolk. NR12 0LL
Tel; 01962 65216
Fax; 01692 652334

ALPINE, ROYAL MODEL, ARTISAN MORI, YOSCI; SMARTMODELLING
No.7 Gordons Way, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0LN. UK
Tel; 01883 734746
smartmodelling@smart7.fsworld.co.uk

AMPERSAND PUBLISHING
(via Historex Agents in UK)
235 NE 6th Avenue #4 Delray Beach,
Florida 33483-5543, USA
Tel; 561-266 9686
Fax; 561-266-9786

ARCHER
(Historex in UK)
PO Box 1277 Youngsville, NC 27596-1277, USA
www.archertransfers.co

BADGER AIR-BRUSH COMPANY
9128W Belmont Ave, Franklin Park, IL 60131
Tel; 847/678-3104
www.badgerairbrush.com
email info@badgerairbrush.com
(In the UK from www.shesto.co.uk)

BISON DECALS
Available from www.hannants.co.uk and
www.pdi-model-supplies.com

BLAST MODELS
Via AFV Modeller or www.blast-models.com

BOOKWORLD WHOLESALE
Unit 10 Hodfar Road, Sandy Lane Ind Est
Stourport, Worcs, DY13 9QB
Tel; 01299 823330
Fax; 01299 829970
info@bookworldws.co.uk

CALIBRE 35
Via Hannants in UK

CAMMETT
(Lifecolour, Scale Caliber)
Unit 5 Greenfield Industrial Estate,
Forest Road, Hay on Wye, Powys, HR3 5FA
Tel; 01497 822757
Email; cammettco@btinternet.com
www.cammett.co.uk

CLASSIC PUBLICATIONS
Midland Counties Publications, 4 Watling Drive,
Sketchley Lane Industrial Estate, Hinckley,
Leics UK. LE10 1YF
Tel; 01455 233 747,
Fax; 01455 233 737
midlandbooks@compuserve.com
www.classic-publications.com

CREATIVE MODELS LTD
(Mig Productions, Vallejo, Accurate Miniatures)
Unit 6-10, Honeysome Industrial Estate, Honeysome
Road, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire. PE16 6TG
Tel; 01354 760022
www.creativemodels.co.uk
info@creativemodels.co.uk

DARTMOOR MILITARY MODELS
Haylis cottage, Budlake, Broadclyst
Exeter, EX5 3LJ, England
Tel; 01392 881271
www.dartmoormilitarymodels.com

DELUXE MATERIALS
www.deluxematerials.co.uk
info@deluxematerials.com
Tel; 01529 455 0340

DRAGON MODELS
(The Hobby Company in UK)
Dragon Models Ltd, Kong Nam Ind. Building B1-10F,
603-609 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan NT,
Hong Kong Fax; (HK) 4110587
www.dragonmodelsltd.com
(For 1:6 Action Figures, please contact Amerang in UK)

ECHELON FINE DETAILS
Available from; wwwaccurate-armour.com &
http://pachomel.pacific.net.sg/~kriegsketten/

FRIENDSHIP MODELS
12 Delta Drive, Musselburgh, East Lothian, EH21 8HR
Tel; 0131 665 0866
Mobile; 07877166225
www.friendshipmodels.com

GREAT NORTH ROADS
9a Marcombe Road, Torquay, South Devon, TQ2 6LL
Tel; 01803 400436
www.greatnorthroads.co.uk
email svfarrugia@yahoo.co.uk

HANNANTS
Harbour Road, Oulton Broad,
Lowestoft, Suffolk, NR32 2LZ,
Tel; 01502 517444
Fax; 01502 500521
www.hannants.co.uk
sales@hannants.co.uk

HISTOREX AGENTS
Wellington House, 157 Snargate Street,
Dover, Kent, CT17 9BZ, UK
Tel; 01304 206720
Fax; 01304 204528.
www.historex-agents.co.uk
sales@historex-agents.co.uk

HOBBYLINK JAPAN
Sano-shi, Kurohakama-cho 162-1,
Tochigi 327-0813, Japan
www.hlj.com

HUSSAR PRODUCTIONS, CANADA
www.airconnection.on.ca

IAN ALLAN
www.ianallanpublishing.com
Mail Order Dept 01455 254450

ICM
(Creative Models in UK)
Kiev 02099, Ukraine, Borispolskaya 9 building 64.
Tel/fax; (+38044) 369-54-12
icm@icm.ua
www.icm.com.ua

ITALERI
(The Hobby Company in UK)
Via Pradazzo, 6, I-40012 Calderara Di Reno,
Bologna, Italy,
Tel; 051 726037
www.italeri.com

JUST BASES
21 Graham Road, Paignton TQ3 1BB
Tel; 01803 558520
www.just-bases.co.uk

JUST KITS
4 High Street, Botley, Southampton, SO30 2EA
Tel; 01489 781177
www.justkitsandmodels.co.uk

LSA MODELS
(TASCA, MASTER BOX)
Retail; 151 Sackville Road, Hove,
East Sussex, BN3 3HD, England.
Tel/Fax; 01273 705420
orders@lsamodels.co.uk
www.lsamodels.co.uk

MDC
Model Design Construction, Victoria Place,
Victoria Road, Ripley, Derbyshire DE5 3FW
Fax; 01773 513344
orders@modeldesignconstruction.com
www.modeldesignconstruction.com

MODELING ARTISAN MORI
http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~m.a.mori/index_eng.html

MIG PRODUCTIONS
(Creative Models in UK)
C/ Santiago Rusinol 7, Pral 2a,
08750 Molins de Rei, Barcelona, Spain
www.migproductions.com

MILICAST MODEL CO.,
9 Rannoch St., Battlefield, Glasgow G44 4DF, Scotland
Tel/Fax; 0141 633 1400
milicastmodels@hotmail.com
www.milicast.com

MISSION MODELS
(ETCHMATE, GRABHANDLER, MICRO CHISEL)
www.etchmate.com
www.missionmodels.com
Tel; 818 842 1885
Fax; 818 842 1886
info@missionmodels.com,
sales@missionmodels.com,
orders@missionmodels.com

THE ARMORY; M&MODELS
9329 S. Cicero Ave, Oak Lawn, IL 60453, USA
http://home.earthlink.net/~mmodels/

MODEL WHOLESALE UK LTD
Tel; 01892 533036
www.modelwholesaleuk.com

MONROE PERDU
Monroe Perdu Designs, 3168 Renee Court,
Simi Valley, CA 93065, USA.
www.monroeperdu.com

ORDNANCE MODELS
Via; www.steelmodels.com

PACIFIC COAST MODELS
Tel; 001 707 538 4850
info@pacmodels.com
www.pacmodels.com

PANZERWRECKS
PO Box 164, Heathfield, Sussex TN21 8WA, UK
www.panzerwrecks.com

PLUS MODEL
(Creative Models in UK)
Jizni 56, 370 10 C. Budejovice, Czech Republic.
plusmodel@plusmodel.cz
www.plusmodel.cz

POCKETBOND LTD
(Trumpeter & AFV Club in UK)
PO Box 80, Welwyn, Hertfordshire,
England, AL6 0ND
Tel; 01707 391509
Fax; 01707 327 466
info@pocketbond.co.uk

PSP MODELS LTD
(Mission Models in USA)
Unit 19B, Applin's Farm, Farrington,
Dorset DT11 8RA, UK
Tel/Fax; 01747 811 817
www.psp-models.com

QUICKBOOST
www.quickboost.net

REVELL GmbH & Co. KG
Orchard Mews, 18C High Street,
Tring, Herts, HP23 5AH
Tel; +44 (0) 1442 250130
Fax; +44 (0) 1442 245619
www.revell.eu

SB MODELS
UK distributor for Model Victoria and Royal Model
P.O. Box 114, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA13 0WY.
Tel/Fax; 01229 430 749
sales@sbmodels.fsnet.co.uk
www.sbmodels.net

SBLC
PO Box 794, Cheltenham GL52 3ZW, UK
RICHARDSBLC@aol.com

SBX MODEL SHOP
Norwich Road, Ipswich. IP1 5DN
Tel; 01473 464311
www.sbxmodelshop.co.uk

SCHATTON BARRELS
Industriestrasse 6, 94347 Ascha, Germany
Fax; 09961 910 7826

SCHIFFER BOOKS
Schiffer Publishing, 4880 Lower Valley Rd,
Atglen, PA, 19310 USA
www.schifferbooks.com

SCHIFFER BOOKS in UK
Bushwood Books, No.6 Marksbury Avenue,
Kew Gardens, Surrey TW9 4JF, UK.
Tel; 020 8392 8585, 020 8392 9876,
email; info@bushwodbooks.co.uk

SCHUMO KITS
www.schumo-kits.com

SDV MODEL
www.sdvmodel.cz

SIMPLE 2 TRADE
No 2 Hollywood Lane, Hollywood,
Birmingham, B47 5PP
Tel; 0121 474 3030
www.simple2trade.com

SMARTMODELLING
(Swash, Tasca, Gap, Yosci, Royal Model)
No.7 Gordons Way, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0LN UK
Tel; 01883 734746
smartmodelling@smart7.fsworld.co.uk

SQUADRON
1115 Crowley Drive, Carrollton, TX 75006-1312 U.S.A

SWANN-MORTON
Owlerton Green, Sheffield, S6 2BJ
Tel; +44 (0)114 234 4231
Fax; +44 (0)114 231 4966
General: info@swann-morton.com
www.craftknives.com

TAMIYA JAPAN
Tamiya, Inc., 3-7 Ondawara Suruga-ku,
Shizuoka 422-8610 JAPAN
www.tamiya.com

TAMIYA UK;
THE HOBBY COMPANY LIMITED
Garforth Place, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG, UK
Tel; 01908 605686 Fax; 01908 605666
enquiries@hobbyco.net
www.hobbyco.net

TRUMPETER
www.trumpeter-china.com
Pocketbond in the UK

VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS
(Historex in UK)
811 Lone Star Drive, O'Fallon, Missouri 63366, USA
www.verlinden-productions.com

VALLEJO
(Creative Models in UK)
Acrylicos Vallejo, SL Apartado 337 - 08800
Vilanova i la Geltrú, Barcelona, Spain
Tel; (34) 93 893 60 12
Fax; (34) 93 893 11 54
www.acrylicosvallejo.com

VLS CORPORATION
(LSA in UK)
(TRAKZ, WINGZ, CUSTOM DIORAMICS, WARRIORS);
Lincoln County Industrial Park, 1011 Industrial Court,
Moscow Mills, Missouri 63362, USA
www.modelmecca.com

WHITE ENSIGN
Unit 5, Cobnash Industrial Estate, HR6 9RW
Tel; 0844 415 0914
wem@onetel.com
www.whiteensignmodels.com

WWII PRODUCTIONS, AUSTRALIA
12 Prince Street, Waratah, 2298, NSW, Australia
Tel; +61 (0)2 4967 3205
Fax; +61 (0)2 4967 3207
ww2prod@optusnet.com.au

ZVEZDA
(The Hobby Company in UK)
Promishlennaia Str.,2, Lobnya, Moscow Region,
141730 Russia
office@zvezda.org.ru
www.zvezda.org.ru

■ ***Please mention 'Model Military International' if you make contact with any of the companies listed above - thanks!***

Next Issue

On sale 4th October 2012

EASTERN FIRE

Javier Redondo Giminez kitbashes two Trumpeter kits to come up with 1:35 scale KV-8 Flamethrower.

ELEFANT Part Two

Brett Green paints and weathers Tamiya's brand new 1:35 scale Elefant.

CUSTOM T-62

Zachary Sex, Adam Wilder and José Brito team up to transform, detail, paint and weather Trumpeter's 1:35 scale T-62 Model 1972.

LIGHT HORSE

Andrew Judson builds and paints AC Models' large-scale WWI bust.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

Don't forget, when using solvents such as glues, paints, thinners and cleaning agents, always ventilate your work area thoroughly and wear a face mask.

When using power tools, side cutters or any tool that can suddenly break or create high-speed airborne particles, wear approved eye protectors with hard, clear lenses. Please always model in safety!

...and much more!

Due to many influencing factors, we cannot guarantee the appearance of the above projects, but we'll try our best!

Model MILITARY INTERNATIONAL

ISSUE No.78 October 2012, PUBLISHED September 6th 2012

Editor;	Brett Green
Group Editor;	Marcus Nicholls
Publisher;	Alan Harman
Graphic Design;	Alex Hall
Advertising Manager;	Colin Spinner
Advertising Sales;	Mark Peacock
Advertising Assistant;	Joe Brown
Office Manager;	Paula Gray
Administration Manager;	Hannah McLaurie
MMI Website;	Alex Hall

Printed by;
Symbian Print Intelligence, Hertfordshire, UK

Distributed by;
Seymour Distribution
2 East Poultry Avenue, London, EC1A 9PT
Tel; 020 7429 4000

Newstrade;
Select Publisher Services
3 East Avenue, Bournemouth, BH3 7BW
Tel; 01202 586848
Email; tim@selectps.com

Model Military International is published on the first Thursday of each month by;
ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane,
Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX UK
www.modelmilitary.com
Tel; +44 (0)1525 222573
Fax; +44 (0)1525 222574

Editorial enquiries;
Email; editor@modelmilitary.com

Advertising enquiries;
Tel; +44 (0)1525 222573
Email; colin@adhpublishing.com

Subscription enquiries;
Tel; +44 (0)1525 222573
Fax; +44 (0)1525 222574
Email; enquiries@adhpublishing.com

Reproduction in part of any text, photograph, or illustration without written consent from the publisher is strictly prohibited. While due care is taken to ensure the contents of **Model Military International** is accurate, the publishers and printers can not accept responsibility for errors and omissions.

Advertisements are accepted for publication in **Model Military International** only on ADH Publishing's standard terms of acceptance of advertising, copies of which are available from the advertising department. Please write to the address above. All advertising, circulation and subscription enquiries should also be directed to the UK address above.

Subscription rates are;
1 year (12 issues); £41 UK
£54 Europe
£67 Worldwide (Airmail)

Binders;
£8.50 plus postage
(UK £2.45, Euro £4.45, World £6.45)
For all orders, please call;
(UK) +44(0)1525 222573
or visit www.modelmilitary.com

Back Issues;
Back Issues are available at the current cover price. See the latest back issues advert or visit www.modelmilitary.com

The paper used in this magazine is manufactured at the Leipa Georg Mill and is 100% recycled using de-inked pulp. The mill conforms fully with the requirements of both FSC and PEFC and carries the full accreditations for their environmental policies.

www.fsc.org
www.pefc.org

© ADH Publishing 2012

Order online now at; www.modelmilitary.com

The Last Post..

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT...

Russian Navy Yasen Class SSN
ロシア海軍 ヤーセン型原子力潜水艦 俄罗斯海军"亚森"攻击核潜艇
Length: 342.9mm
Beam: 34.3 mm
HOBBY BOSS
1:350 SCALE
AGES 14+

HOBBYBOSS 1:350 YASEN CLASS SUBMARINE • KIT NO. 83526

HobbyBoss expands its submarine range with a 1:350 scale Russian Yasen Class. **Graham Tetley** raises the periscope.

What, no tracks I hear you cry? Heresy! Well, actually, this is a very nice kit that makes a welcome change from armour. If it helps, just imagine that inside it there is a little Russian captain issuing orders with a broad Scottish accent...

HobbyBoss' 1:350 scale Yasen Class submarine is a very simple model with only 27 plastic parts and 11 in photo-etch, of which four are set aside for the display stand. Two options are provided, the first provides alternative etched parts, so that, if you want the periscopes and antenna raised, you may show the hatches open. The second provides alternative screws and an extension to the rear hull, but personally I prefer the larger propeller as it looks meaner!

Detail is nice and sharp and there is no flash or visible pin marks anywhere to be seen. Fit of parts is also good with just a few gentle swipes of sandpaper needed to remove the faint join lines and mould separation marks.

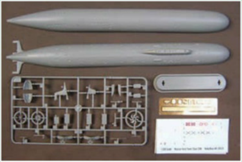
The hull is moulded in two halves and you will need to carefully mask off the waterline mark when it comes to painting. The fit of the two halves is good, but you will need to be careful in removing the join line as there is some very fine and delicate engraving present.

The instructions are simple and comprise only four steps, but HobbyBoss also provides a large and clear painting guide. Needless to say, this is a very quick and easy build and, with an overall dark grey paint scheme, an easy paintjob as well.

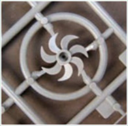
If you like your 1:350 ships then this is an ideal companion. With its ease of construction and monotone colour scheme it will also be a good starter kit as most of the etched parts are optional.

It is said that a change is as good as a holiday, and this is lovely little distraction from individual track links and 1000 part tank kits. Go on, give one a try. You won't regret it! ■

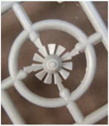
HobbyBoss kits are available online from Creative Models www.creativemodels.co.uk



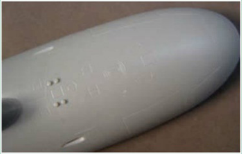
Parts layout.



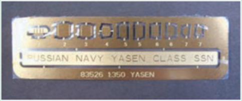
The screw in all its swirly majesty.



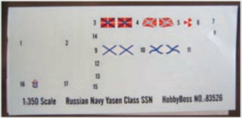
The alternative propeller.



Fine engraved detail on the hull.



The photo-etched fret.

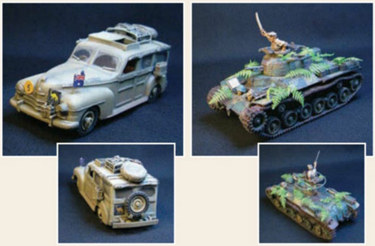

1:350 Scale Russian Navy Yasen Class SSN HobbyBoss NO.:83526

The decal sheet.

WARGAMING AND MODELLING

We have heard back from **Bruce Murray,** who contacted us some time ago about his die-cast wargame models:

> "Dear MMI,
>
> You might remember you ran a letter and photos of my wargame scale vehicles some issues ago. I have just completed two 1:56 scale projects inspired by cover stories from you wonderful magazine. They are a Japanese Type 97 Chi - Ha, and a Woody staff car. I have taken a bit of license with making the Woody an Aussie vehicle in ME command.
>
> The link between military modelling and wargaming is still strong! Keep inspiring us!
>
> **Regards**
> **Bruce Murray**
> **BATTLEWAGONS**
> **UNITED KINGDOM**"

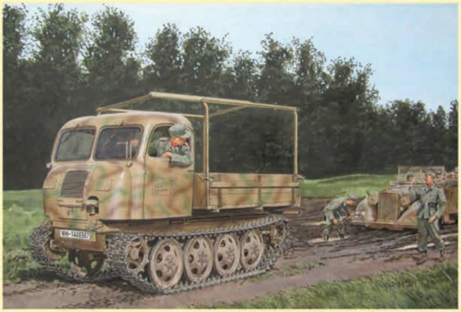


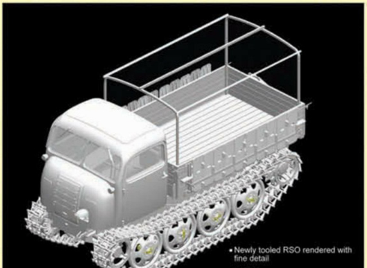
1:35 '39-'45 SERIES

RSO/01 Type 470

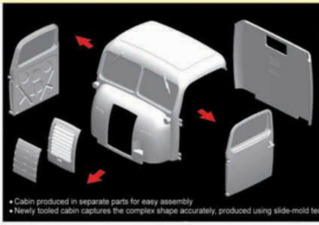
Smart Kit

Engineered for modeling enjoyment | **Plastic parts with enhanced detail** | **Unprecedented value** | **Ready for immediate assembly!**

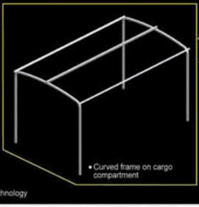




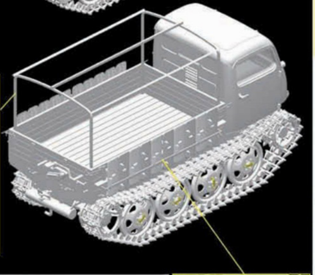
- Newly tooled RSO rendered with fine detail

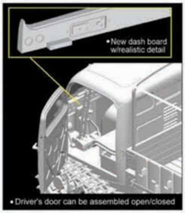


- Cabin produced in separate parts for easy assembly
- Newly tooled cabin captures the complex shape accurately, produced using slide-mold technology

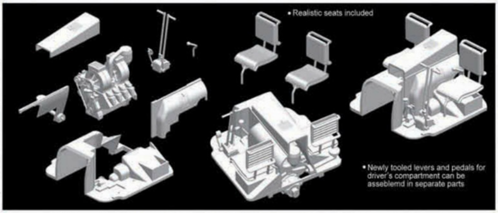


- Curved frame on cargo compartment





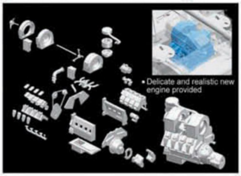
- New dash board w/realistic detail
- Driver's door can be assembled open/closed



- Realistic seats included
- Newly tooled levers and pedals for driver's compartment can be asseblemd in separate parts

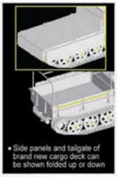
- Spare Winterketten tracks w/detailed surfaces on side panels

- Delicate Notek lamp reproduced

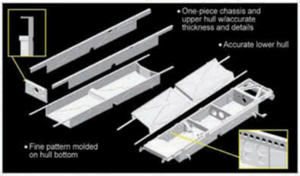


- Delicate and realistic new engine provided

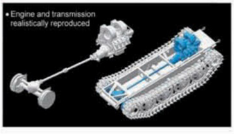
- Drive sprocket and mountings accurately replicated



- Side panels and tailgate of brand new cargo deck can be shown folded up or down



- One-piece chassis and upper hull w/accurate thickness and details
- Accurate lower hull
- Fine pattern molded on hull bottom



- Engine and transmission realistically reproduced

- Detailed suspension included
- Delicate road wheels
- Separate road wheels w/photos-etched details mounted in pairs
- Ammo case is included

- Muffler w/exhaust pipe accurately produced

Magic Track

- Brand new Magic Track

DRAGON

D6691

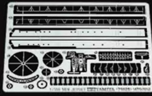
Dragon Kits are distributed in the UK by The Hobby Company Limited, Knowlhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8PG
See the full Dragon range at www.hobbyco.net
Dragon models are available from all good model shops

THE HOBBY COMPANY LIMITED
www.hobbyco.net

Own the Big J

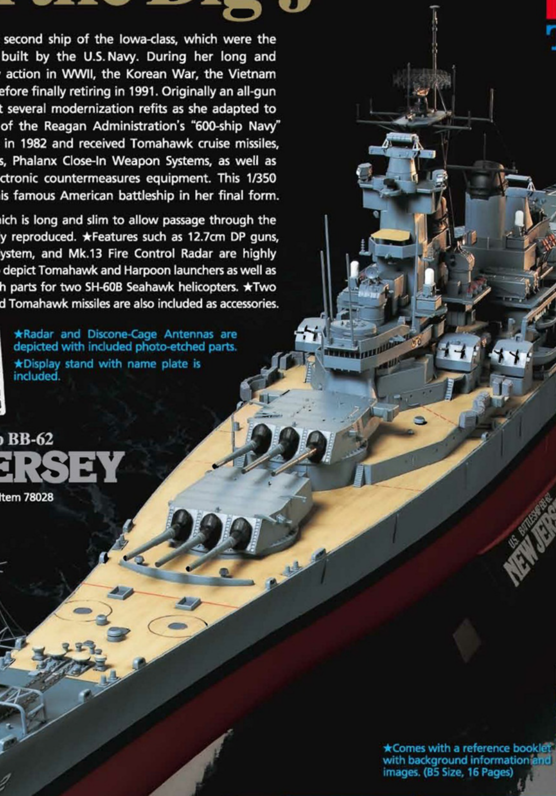
The USS New Jersey was second ship of the Iowa-class, which were the largest battleships ever built by the U.S. Navy. During her long and illustrious career, she saw action in WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and other conflicts before finally retiring in 1991. Originally an all-gun battleship, she underwent several modernization refits as she adapted to changing times. As part of the Reagan Administration's "600-ship Navy" plan, she was reactivated in 1982 and received Tomahawk cruise missiles, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, Phalanx Close-In Weapon Systems, as well as upgraded radars and electronic countermeasures equipment. This 1/350 scale model kit depicts this famous American battleship in her final form.

★The form of the hull, which is long and slim to allow passage through the Panama Canal, is accurately reproduced. ★Features such as 12.7cm DP guns, Mk.38 Gun Fire Control System, and Mk.13 Fire Control Radar are highly detailed. ★Parts included to depict Tomahawk and Harpoon launchers as well as Phalanx CIWS. ★Comes with parts for two SH-60B Seahawk helicopters. ★Two 1/350 scale 16-inch shells and Tomahawk missiles are also included as accessories.



★Radar and Discone-Cage Antennas are depicted with included photo-etched parts.

★Display stand with name plate is included.


U.S. BATTLESHIP BB-62
NEW JERSEY
62

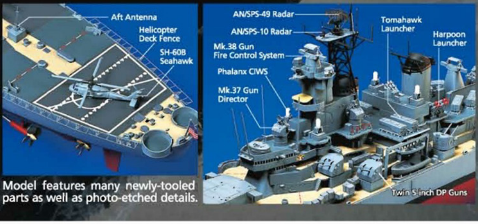
1/350 U.S. Battleship BB-62
NEW JERSEY
(w/Detail Up Parts) Item 78028

★Length: 774mm
★Beam: 94.5mm

1/350 SCALE
SHIP SERIES

U.S. BATTLESHIP BB-62
NEW JERSEY

★Comes with a reference booklet with background information and images. (B5 Size, 16 Pages)


Aft Antenna
Helicopter Deck Fence
SH-60B Seahawk
AN/SPS-49 Radar
AN/SPS-10 Radar
Mk.38 Gun Fire Control System
Phalanx CIWS
Mk.37 Gun Director
Tomahawk Launcher
Harpoon Launcher
Twin 5-inch DP Guns

Model features many newly-tooled parts as well as photo-etched details.

〈Internal Dimensions〉 824 x 164 x 237mm ★Ship model is not included.

Displaying the Big J

Made from 3mm thick clear acrylic material, this case will help protect your model from dust and humidity. Wooden base is included to result in a high-class appearance.

1/350 Scale Model Display Case (w/Wooden Base) Item 73019

Waterline Series New Product

1/700 U.S. Aircraft Carrier Yorktown (CV-5) Item 31712

★Product may vary from images shown. ★Images show assembled and painted model kit.

TAMIYA, INC. 3-7 ONDAWARA, SURUGA-KU, SHIZUOKA 422-8610 JAPAN

©2012 TAMIYA